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# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

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Vol. XXXIX, No. 61

Section 1

December 11, 1930.

## THE PRESIDENT URGES WORLD COURT VOTE

The protocols for American adherence to the World Court were sent to the Senate yesterday by President Hoover with a message asking consideration as soon as the emergency relief and appropriation legislation has been enacted. (A.P. Dec. 11.)

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## FARM BUREAU FEDERATION

A Boston dispatch to the press to-day states that the American Farm Bureau Federation yesterday adopted a resolution seeking operation of Muscle Shoals by a cooperative organization of farmers. The federation also voiced its opposition to amending the agricultural marketing act at this time. Among other resolutions adopted were: Recommendation for stricter regulation of the grain and cotton exchanges. Recommendation that funds to be used as loans to farmers in the purchase of feed for foundation animals, fertilizer and seeds, in the drought-stricken areas, be made available immediately. That the present session of Congress appropriate money to insure the immediate carrying out of the development projects authorized in the rivers and harbors act of 1930. Advocacy of a revolving fund in the Federal Treasury to be used exclusively to stabilize Federal Land Bank bonds.

The federation recommended that the grain and cotton exchanges be licensed by the Secretary of Agriculture, and that he should have the power to close or suspend them if he deemed it necessary.

The press report says: "An organization of farmers broad enough to plan production and control marketing, coupled with adequate tariff protection, are the hope of agriculture, Arthur M. Hyde, Secretary of Agriculture, told the federation. 'The root of our troubles is overproduction,' he asserted. 'The job immediately ahead of us is twofold; to stop uneconomic expansion to new lands and get unprofitable submarginal land out of crop production, and by direct positive action on the part of farmers themselves, to regulate the acreage in crops.'...."

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## NON-POISON DENATURANT FOR ALCOHOL RE- PORTED

Dr. James M. Doran, Chief of the Industrial Alcohol Bureau of the Treasury Department, announced yesterday that a new denaturing element has been discovered which, within a short time, would make possible the elimination of poisons from industrial alcohol, according to the press to-day. The report says: "A petroleum product, derived from oil undergoing the cracking process, termed alcotate, will be substituted for wood alcohol. Alcotate can be obtained only from California petroleum...."

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## COLOMBIA BANANA TAX

A Bogota dispatch to-day says: "Possibly influenced by the controversy between the United Fruit Company and the Cooperative Banana Company of Santa Marta, which resulted in a congressional investigation, the Colombian Lower House has increased the export tax on bananas from two to three cents a bunch and has made other changes in the bill presented by the Minister of Finance...."

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## Section 2

Ayres on  
Business

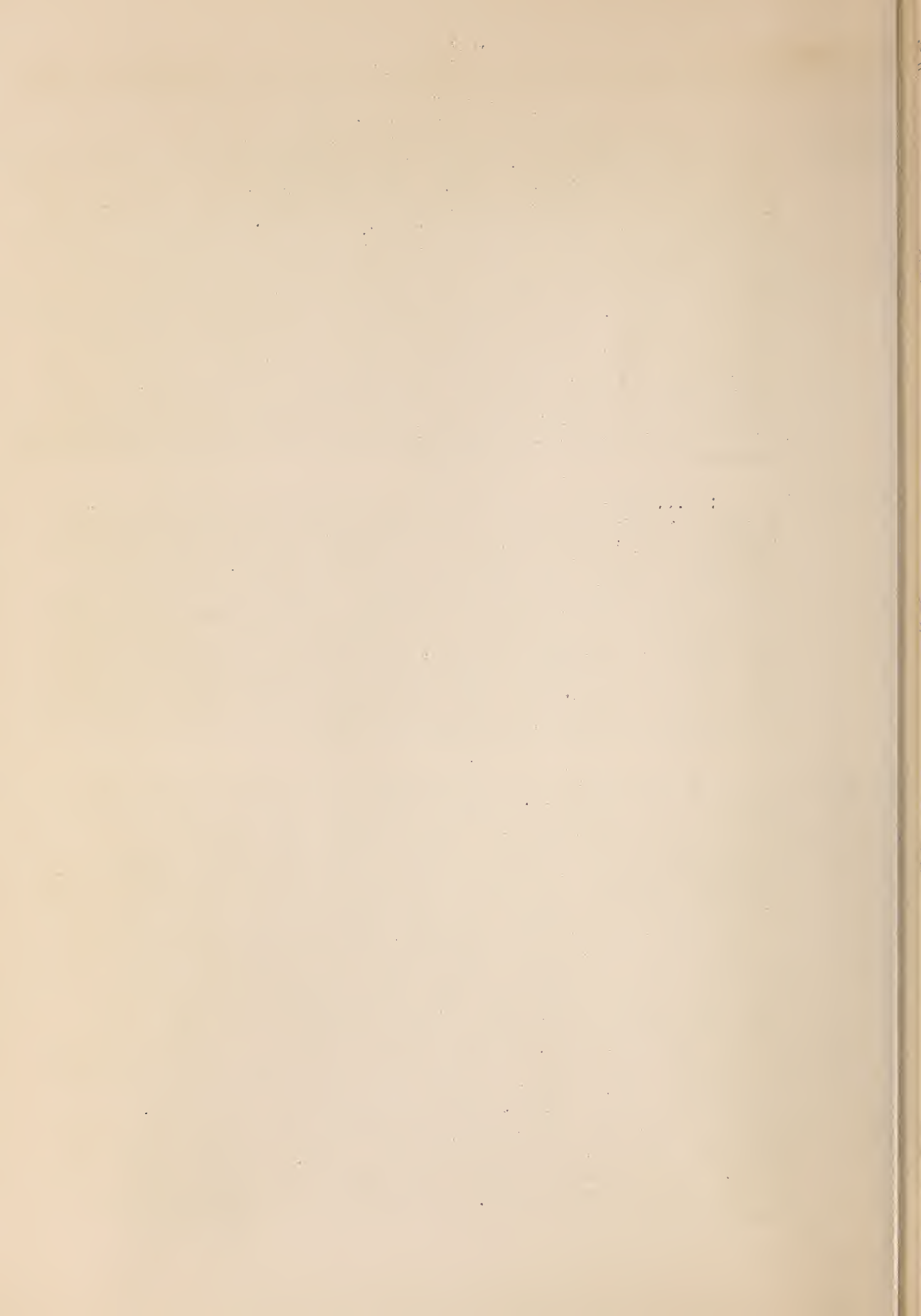
The bottom of the business depression is at hand, according to all the "old signs and symptoms," and recovery next year should be expected, Colonel Leonard P. Ayres, vice president of the Cleveland Trust Company, said yesterday, according to the press to-day. He made this forecast in his annual address before the Cleveland Chamber of Commerce. The report says: "He cautioned, however, that it 'is already clear that we are not warranted in expecting a rapid recovery. The purchasing power of an important part of our population is still seriously restricted by the paring down of debts incurred in unsuccessful stock speculation,' he said. Another reason for a delay in business recovery is that, although we have an abundant supply of credit, 'we have not developed any new wave of constructive enterprise such as canals, railroads, war materials, highways and automobiles,' he declared. These activities have usually come from 'men of courage who took advantage of the low interest rates to float bond issues for financing expansion and improvements,' Colonel Ayres said."

## Cotton

An editorial in The Wall Street Journal for December 10 says in part: "...The influence of the Farm Board is actively engaged in a campaign for a drastic reduction of acreage, and some banks also are preparing to assist that movement by denying credit to those who do not reduce acreage a certain percentage. As cotton is a credit crop, and the credit begins about this time and extends through the season to ginning time, it is certain that the banks could, if they all saw fit, exercise a powerful influence upon planters...A serious question with the farmer is what he shall plant if he reduces his cotton acreage. There is no question that diversification is one of the remedies for the cotton farmer's condition, but that is a long-time matter, not to be adopted and made practicable over night..."

Low Cost  
Yields

An editorial in The Ohio Farmer for November 29 says: "The keynote in the speaking program in connection with the Corn Harvest Field Day at Ira Marshall's in Hardin County was low cost yields. From Mr. Marshall's personal account of his fertilization program to the detailed report of costs of various methods of corn production and harvesting emphasis was laid on the influence these different methods have on the cost per bushel of corn laid down in the crib. While it is true that in most of the instances reported the bigger the yield the lower was the cost per bushel there was no emphasis by any of the speakers on the old idea of making two blades grow where one grew before just to grow a big crop. All of the methods emphasized were emphasized because they meant a cheaper bushel in the crib, and a cheaper bushel in the crib means a bigger profit to the grower whether the grain is fed or sold. Of course one can go hog wild on fertilizer and expensive machinery and defeat the low cost yield aim; but such instances are rare. Almost without exception the crops that cost the most per bushel are those crops grown without any or with too little fertilizer and with too much hand labor. These high cost yields are the ones that break the market, that return less than the cost of production. Let us examine our crop practices in the light of their influence on the cost per bushel, per pound or per ton. Will our



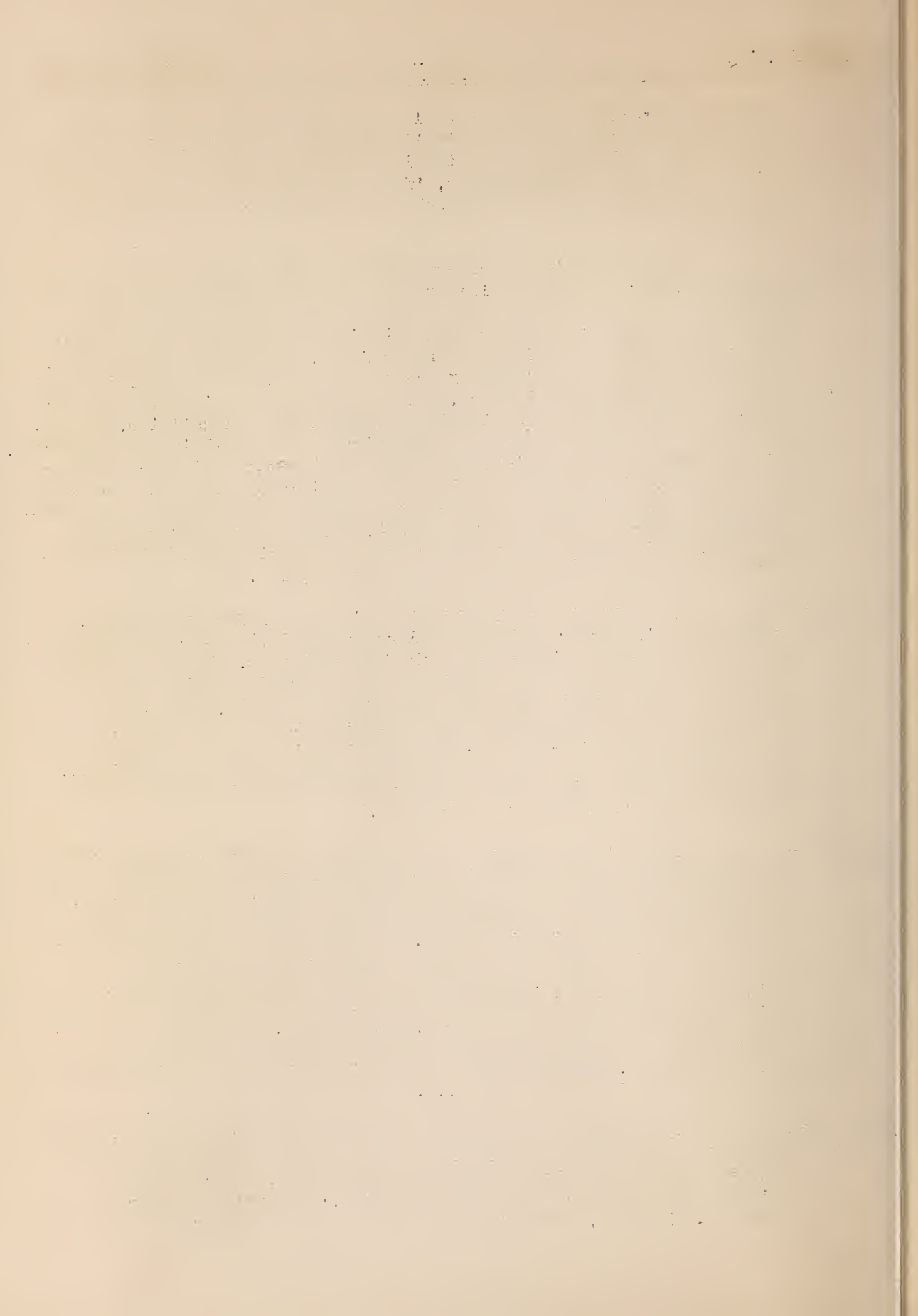
fertilizer mean more bushels at less cost per bushel? Will a piece of modern machinery pay for itself through labor saved? Will these things bring our cost per unit below the market price for our products? In the language of Shakespeare, 'That is the question,' and the farmer will have to answer it for himself in the light of his own practices and conditions."

**Southern Conditions** A combination of circumstances including general business depression, severe drought, low prices on stock commodities and numerous bank failures, has brought about serious unemployment in the South, Frank Bane, member of the President's Emergency Committee for Employment, December 9 told Colonel Arthur Woods, the chairman. Mr. Bane, who has charge of the territory south of the District of Columbia and east of the Mississippi River, said that while the situation there was perhaps not so serious as in highly industrialized localities, its effects were felt more because of ramification into all lines of industry. To cope with the situation, he reported that State relief committees had obtained large appropriations from legislatures, and that an effort was being made to get the cooperation of southern business men and industrial leaders. Funds totaling \$10,000,000 in South Carolina and \$4,000,000 in Virginia were expected for extensive road-building programs to give additional employment. (Press, Dec. 10.)

**Stock Breeding in Michigan** An editorial in The Michigan Farmer for December 6 says: "Michigan's purebred sheep breeders are beginning to establish themselves as fore rank breeders in the United States. They are spending time and thought in the selection of their breeding animals and by so doing are establishing type and uniformity in their flocks. The Shropshire show at the 1930 State Fair was proof of this fact. Of the fifteen flocks exhibited, only one was from outside the State, yet the flocks shown were above the average of past years in quality.... The display shows improvement in our flocks and with each succeeding fair some marked progress is observed."

**Sugar Conferences** An Amsterdam dispatch to the press of December 10 says: "With the two leading sugar producing countries tentatively in harmony on a policy for betterment of the sugar market for the next five years, representatives moved on to Brussels to open the conference there with European beet producing interests. The conference at Amsterdam concluded with Java agreeing to restrict exports to the Far East to 2,300,000 tons in 1931, 2,400,000 in 1932, 2,500,000 in 1933, 2,600,000 in 1934 and 2,700,000 in 1935. The estimated reduction of crop output over this period is 1,250,000 tons, or 10.42 per cent.... In reciprocation Cuba has agreed to restrict its output next year to 3,570,000 tons. Dutch Government officials will have no jurisdiction over the policies decided upon...."

**Tobacco Co-operatives** An editorial in The Progressive Farmer for December 1-14 says: "Down in south Georgia a number of meetings have recently been held looking toward organizing a tobacco cooperative, and 'there was a difference of opinion among the delegates,' according to news dispatches. Finally, however, a fair degree of sanity must have prevailed





for resolutions were passed 'indorsing the proposal to create a Georgia Tobacco Cooperative Association.'...Georgia is going to have a tobacco cooperative. It will be modeled after the successful cooperative now doing business in South Carolina. And it will succeed if the growers join it and stick. Otherwise it can't. In this connection we might reaffirm our belief that Kentucky and Virginia and all the other States where tobacco is grown are going to organize true cooperatives too some day. It is still the way out, all mistakes and disappointments to the contrary notwithstanding."

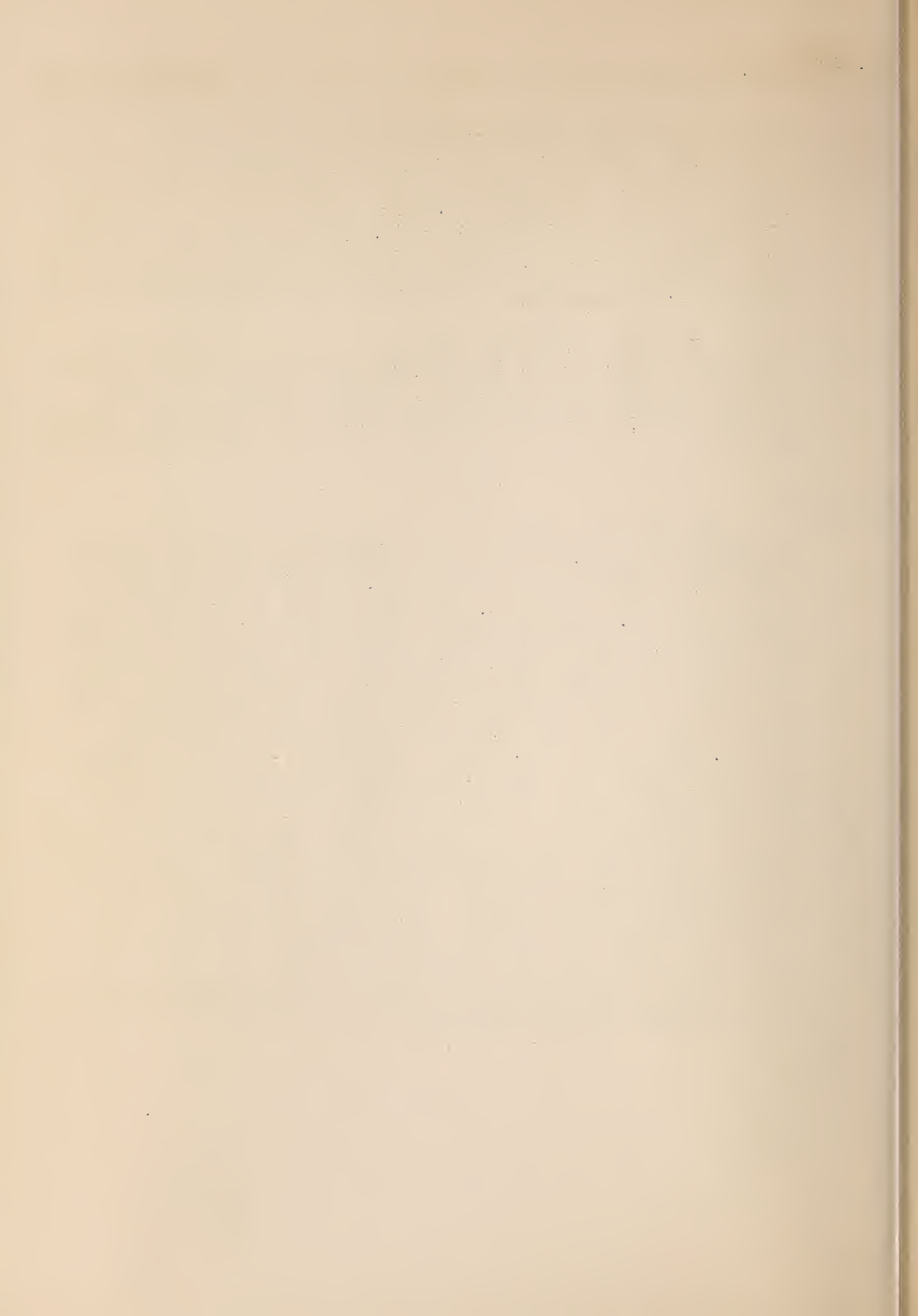
Women in Government Positions      Women are supplanting men more and more in Government jobs. "During the year," A Civil Service Commission report said, "women were appointed as inspector of customs, immigrant inspector, telegraph operator, linotype operator and minor observer in meteorology. Drafting is a field in which several women had received appointment." (Press, Dec. 7.)

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### Section 3

Department of Agriculture      An editorial in The Journal of Commerce for December 9 says: "The Secretary of Agriculture in his Annual Report makes a number of observations concerning the problems of farm credit that deserve to be called to public attention....Mr. Hyde admits that the borrowing power of the farmer is much reduced, but he says it is not due to any lack of credit or credit machinery. In that respect agriculture is much better off than it was ten years ago. The problem is not simply one of providing credit facilities but one of risks, and many of the 4,000 banks serving agricultural areas, which have failed since post-war deflation set in, are charged with having assumed risks that prudent bankers would have rejected. The supply of trained bankers has been inadequate, in the opinion of Mr. Hyde. Healthy conditions, furthermore, demand not merely sound credit institutions but sound farm management as well as sound farm conditions...Caution against over-borrowing, whether it be in the form of short term loans or of mortgage credits is urged, and the interdependence of all types of agricultural credit is emphasized. Particular importance is given to farm earning power as the test of the security of mortgage loans instead of the estimated selling value of lands. If the advice to base loans upon conservative estimates of earning power instead of upon hopes of advancing land values had been followed in the past, many of the debt-ridden farmers of this country who attribute their misfortune to low prices of farm products would find themselves in a position to live and to pay their way while doing it."

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# Section 4 MARKET QUOTATIONS

## Farm Products

Dec. 10.--Livestock prices: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers; steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$9.25 to \$13.50; cows, good and choice \$5.25 to \$7.50; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$8.75 to \$12.50; vealers, good and choice \$8 to \$11; feeder and stocker cattle; steers, good and choice \$7 to \$9; heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$7.85 to \$8.05; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$8 to \$8.25; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$7.85 to \$8.25 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs, lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$7.25 to \$8.35; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$5.50 to \$7.50.

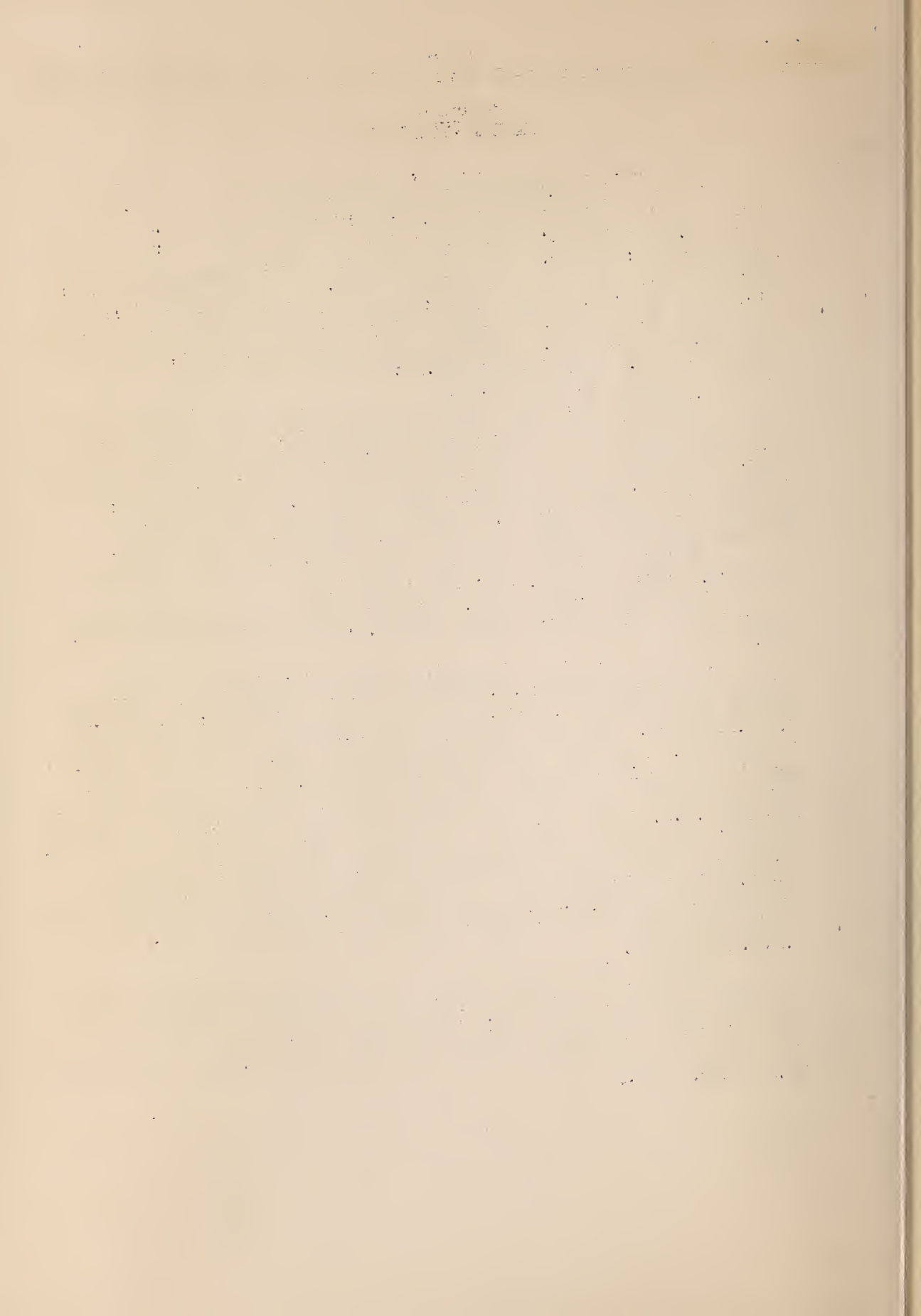
Grain prices: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis 77 to 81¢; No.2 red winter St. Louis 84½ to 85¢; No.2 hard winter Kansas City 71½ to 72¢; No.3 mixed corn Chicago 71 to 73½¢; Minneapolis 62 to 64¢; Kansas City 65 to 67½¢; No.3 yellow corn Chicago 72 to 74½¢; Minneapolis 65½ to 68¢; St. Louis 73 to 74¢; Kansas City 68½ to 70½¢; No.3 white oats Chicago 36½ to 36¾¢; Minneapolis 32½ to 33½¢; St. Louis 37¢; Kansas City 34½ to 35½¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 33½¢; 91 score, 33¢; 90 score, 31½¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 17½ to 20¢; Single Daisies, 17½ to 18¢; Young Americas, 18¢.

Maine sacked Green Mountain potatoes \$1.90-\$2.05 per 100 pounds in eastern cities; \$1.25-\$1.30 f.o.b. Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites \$1.35-\$1.45 carlot sales in Chicago; \$1.15-\$1.20 f.o.b. Waupaca. Florida Spaulding Rose \$6-\$7 per double-head barrel in New York. New York and Midwestern sacked yellow onions \$1.10-\$1.60 per 100 pounds in consuming centers; few \$1-\$1.10 f.o.b. Rochester. New York Danish type cabbage \$20-\$28 bulk per ton in terminal markets; \$15-\$16 f.o.b. Rochester. Florida Pointed type \$1.50-\$2 per 1½ bushel hamper in the East. Delaware and Maryland yellow sweet potatoes \$1.15-\$1.50 per bushel hamper in eastern cities. Tennessee Nancy Halls \$1-\$1.35 in the Middle West. New York McIntosh apples \$1.50-\$2; Rhode Island Greenings \$1.25-\$1.50 and Baldwins \$1.25-\$1.50 per bushel basket in New York City; Rhode Island Greenings, cold storage stock, \$1.35 f.o.b. Rochester.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets declined 14 points to 9.29¢ per lb. On the corresponding day one year ago the price stood at 16.65¢. New December future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 11 points to 10.04¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 14 points to 10.03¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)



# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XXXIX, No. 62

Section 1

December 12, 1930.

## SENATE VOTES

### EMPLOYMENT

### FUNDS

The emergency public improvements appropriation was passed late yesterday by the Senate, according to the press to-day. The report says: "The Senate struck from the bill the provision giving President Hoover a free hand in the use of the fund, on motion of Senator Robinson, of Arkansas, the Democratic leader. This and other amendments, including an addition of \$5,000,000 to the \$110,000,000 voted by the House, require reconsideration of the legislation by the House. The huge fund to be spent on a vast public improvements program throughout the Nation will become available immediately upon enactment and final congressional approval is expected by early next week at the latest. Sponsors of the legislation assert it will give immediate employment to thousands....."

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## DROUGHT

### RELIEF

Confidence that the House will approve a \$30,000,000 drought relief bill instead of the \$60,000,000 measure passed by the Senate was expressed yesterday by Speaker Longworth in announcing that the legislation would be called up for action early next week, according to the press to-day.

Mr. Longworth said the \$30,000,000 bill previously passed by the House probably would be considered under a procedure barring any amendments. The report says: "House leaders are not only opposed to the \$60,000,000 amount of the Senate bill, but also to authorizing loans to farmers for food in addition to seed and fertilizers for next year's crop. They contend it would be a discrimination against workless people in industrial areas. After the Senate measure was referred to the House agriculture committee, the leaders concluded the lower figure should be voted on by the House and the differences be settled in conference."

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## THE SUGAR

### CONFERENCE

A Brussels dispatch to-day states that Thomas L. Chadbourne, of New York, spokesman of the Cuban-American delegation at the international sugar conference, told the European delegations yesterday that not only the sugar industry but the capitalistic system itself was on trial at the present restriction meeting. The report says: ".....Mr. Chadbourne presented the Cuban-American proposal, asking that all European sugar-exporting countries reduce their exportation 15 per cent next year and gradually cut down the excessive stocks on hand, which now are choking the industries....."

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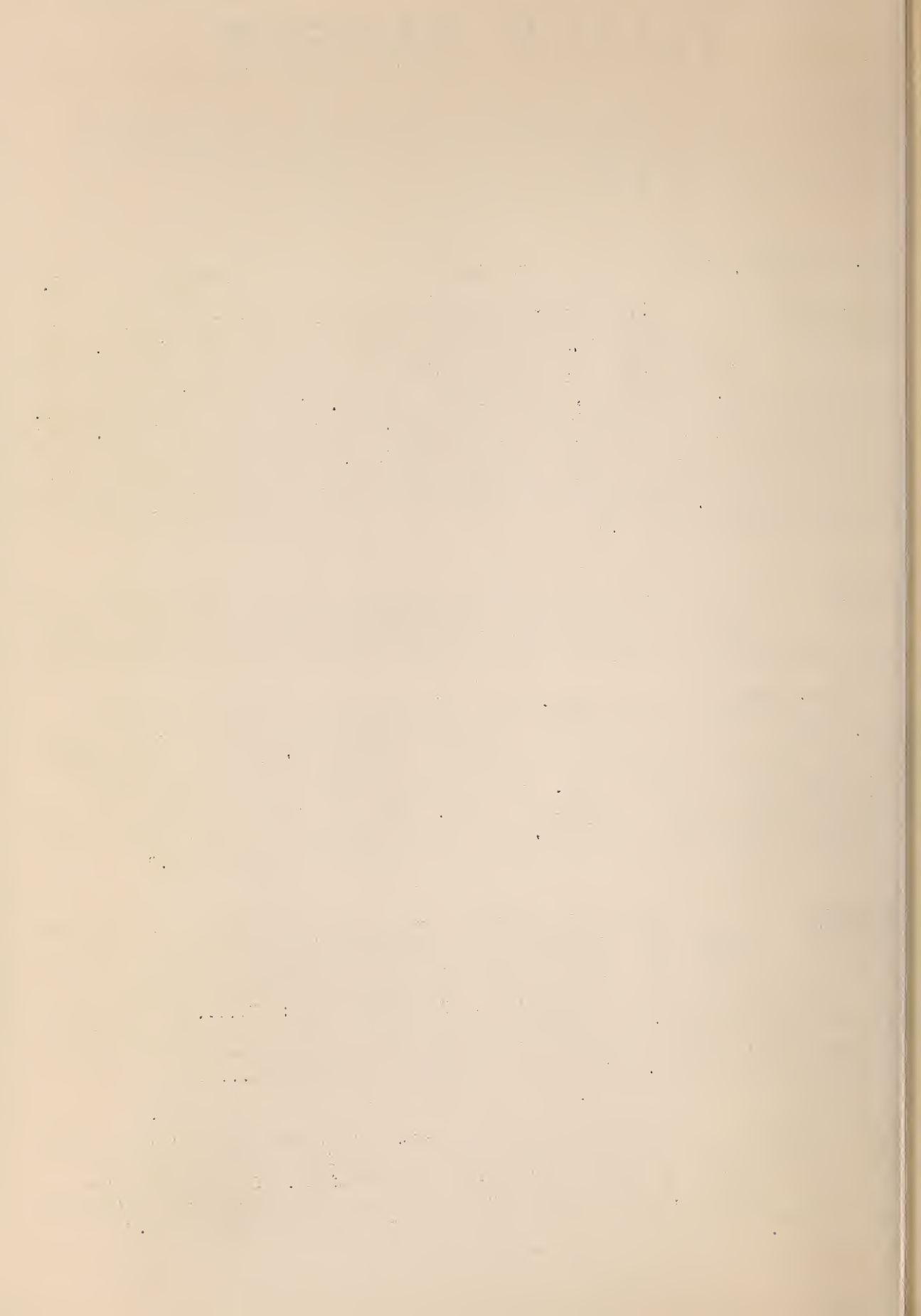
## BELGIAN

### SUGAR

### TARIFF

A Brussels dispatch to-day states that the Senate yesterday passed a bill previously passed by the Chamber increasing the tariff on sugar by 26 cents a hundredweight. In supporting the measure, Finance Minister Houtart said the increase was designed to "help the farmers through the crisis and save local industries from ruin."

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## Section 2

Cotton  
Utiliza-  
tion

Manufacturers Record for December 11 says: "Some years ago the Savannah Sugar Refining Corporation began to use cotton bags as containers for sugar, in place of jute bagging, and this practice has been followed by other refineries, resulting in the utilization of thousands of bales of cotton for this purpose. Reference to this development has been made previously in these columns. Recently we have received from B. O. Sprague, president of the Savannah corporation, a communication written on cotton fabric letter 'paper.' Mr. Sprague expresses his deep interest in the promotion of wider uses for cotton, and his realization that the prosperity of the South is dependent in no small measure on this product, its chief agricultural raw material.....As a novel advertisement of the staple, this new use of cotton fabric is valuable. What the South most needs, however, is to educate its own people to the necessity for wider utilization of cotton products. Perhaps the greatest offenders in the use of products competing with cotton are the growers who continue to use jute bagging for wrapping cotton bales. Why should the growers expect those who can choose from a variety of fabrics to favor cotton products when these very growers are so neglectful of their own opportunities to increase the use of cotton?.....Thus, from this one direction, cotton has to meet the competition of more than 887,000,000 pounds of jute imports valued at nearly \$100,000,000. We do not mean to imply that cotton could be used always in place of jute, but we do say that, especially for the bagging of cotton, and sugar, and probably for other products also, cotton fabrics could be used to the advantage of the entire South. Jute manufactured in British India and other foreign countries helps to give employment to the people of those countries, and every pound of jute we import helps to reduce the opportunity for employment in this country."

Egypt's  
Cotton  
Policy

The Near East and India for November 27 says: "The decision of the Egyptian Government to restrict the cultivation of Sakellaridis cotton to 40 per cent of the total area under cotton for the next three years marks a very decided departure from the policy pursued in Egypt in recent years. Previously measures of restriction have been applied to the whole cotton area; now we have one type, and that the principal type of cotton produced in the country, singled out for this treatment. The view taken by the Government apparently is that complete restriction of the crop is out of the question because of outside competition, but that the supply of Sakellaridis can be regulated to the world demand without endangering the predominant position of this type. It is by no means certain, however, that this calculation will prove correct. As I pointed out recently in these columns, Sakellaridis has been losing ground in Egypt in recent years, and the effect of restriction is likely to give a further impetus to this process; it is certainly bound to be to the advantage of other producers of Sakellaridis. But types of cotton are always changing, and just as there were other cottons before Sakellaridis, so Egypt has to-day a number of new and promising varieties and at any time a cotton may be discovered which will force itself to the first place. There is now to be no restriction on the total area under cotton, and it is satisfactory to know that the Egyptian Government recognizes the soundness of the basic principle of unrestricted production. It is going to meet the problem of low prices by a policy of reducing costs in every direction and by the improvement of quality."





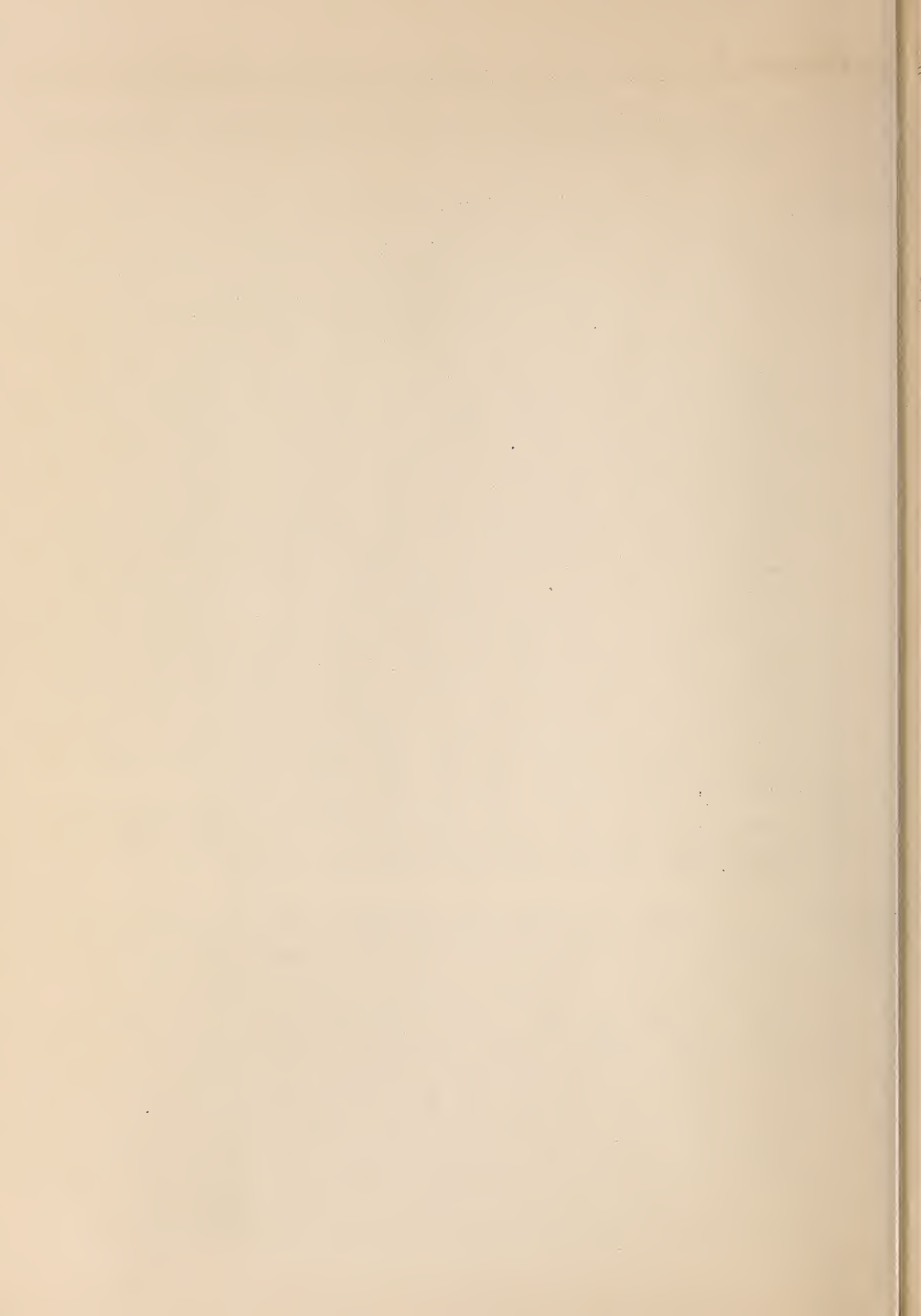
By these methods it should be possible to restore the position of Egypt's chief industry and enable it to profit by the revival of trade when it comes along."

Forestry in New York      An editorial in The New York World for December 10 says: "In his last annual report-- he retires from office at the end of the month -- Alexander MacDonald, the State's efficient conservation commissioner, brings to attention the happy beginnings of the vast undertaking of New York in reforesting abandoned and worn-out farm lands. To grasp the magnitude of New York's forestry commitments some comparisons are useful: Within the limits of the Adirondack and Catskill Parks are included 4,000,000 acres, about the combined area of Connecticut and Rhode Island. Almost half of this area is in private ownership under State regulation. Somewhat more than half is State land in varying stages of reforestation; some virgin timber, some cut-over land, some young forest, some fire-blackened tracts. What is now proposed is the purchase and reforestation of another million acres, say about the area of Rhode Island plus Greater New York, of low-grade farm lands outside of the great State parks. The chances are fair that in this additional area the State will practice practical forestry, marketing as well as producing forest growth. An amendment to the State Constitution facilitating such handling of the new million acres passed the Legislature in the last session. It will probably be passed again in that body and accepted by the people at the polls next November. No one is at present proposing the relaxation of the rule that forbids the selling, removal, or destruction of timber on the forest Preserve proper, which is to be 'forever kept as wild forest lands.' Only on the new purchases outside of the Adirondack and Catskill Parks is scientific forestry for the market to be tried if the amendment passes. As these purchases are to be spread over fifteen years the State will come but gradually into its new activity. But under the Hewitt Act more than 40,000 acres have already been replanted, an area nearly equal to that of Brooklyn.

No other State in the Union has anything like New York's woodland commitments. As timber elsewhere is cut away, that of New York is restored and augmented, the Empire State may soon be known also as the Forest State-- and the name has a refreshing sound."

Mendelian  
Theory

The Wall St. Journal for December 9 says: ".....Sir William Bateson in the address mentioned discussed the Mendelian theory in its application to the human race. Most of his remarks dealt with biological technicalities which are not relevant to this discussion. He reached, however, an important general conclusion which is relevant. That conclusion was that, so far as science could see, the human race would always exhibit a highly 'polymorphic' state, i.e., that individuals would be of widely differing qualities and degrees of 'capacity' from any point of view, and that anything in the nature of an approach to a common level of either qualities or capacities was quite unlikely if not impossible. He warned his hearers that no form of human organization which did not take this into account could hope for survival. In other words, nature has stratified the human race upon an 'aristocratic' rather than upon a 'democratic' basis with respect to all human mental or physical activities from poetry, music, painting, and metaphysics to golf, baseball, prize-fighting, and contract bridge. In all these



things there are a few 'outstanding' individuals and a great many others scattered all the way down the scale to the zero point. It is likely, too, that the 'brackets' of the various scales would show, if we could ascertain them, a fairly uniform principle of distribution...."

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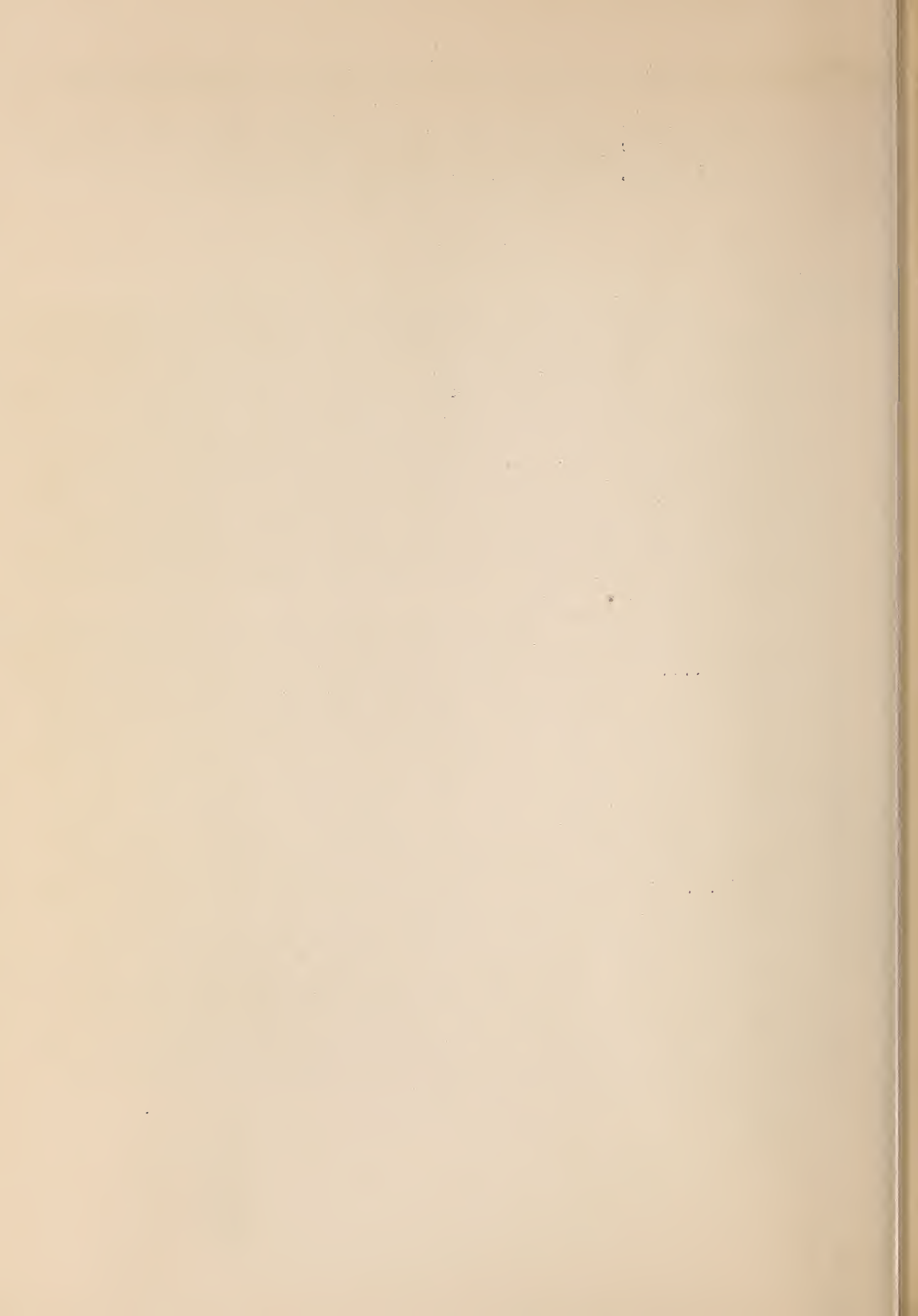
### Section 5

#### Department of Agriculture

Commenting, in the current number of Industrial and Engineering Chemistry, upon the protection afforded the public by the enforcement by the Food and Drug Administration, U. S. Department of Agriculture, of the food and drugs act, H. E. Howe, editor of that journal, says: "The \$200,000,000 or more spent annually on various sorts of patent medicines, many of which are no doubt excellent for the purpose intended, is one indication of the extent of self-medication, commendable in many cases, but dangerous in the inverse ratio to the intelligence of the sufferer or his attendant. It is particularly important that the public be protected not only in the matter of the true statement upon labels, but in the truth of concurrent advertising. Should it be experienced that, under existing laws, technicalities prevent the proper protection of the public, then there will be nothing left but to amend the legislation to insure the public's good."

The editorial says, further: "Ever since its creation the act designed to enable the adequate protection of the citizens of the United States in matters pertaining to food and drugs has been subject to contention.....It is not generally understood that there is a marked difference in the difficulty of enforcing that part of the act which pertains to food and that which pertains particularly to so-called patent medicine. Where foods are concerned, it is only necessary to show that they have been labeled or branded so as to deceive or mislead the purchaser to take legal action. This is much easier than in the case of patent medicines, where steps can be taken only provided the 'package or label shall bear or contain any statement, design, or device regarding the curative or therapeutic effect of such article or any of the ingredients or substances contained therein which is false and fraudulent.'.....Now unless the Government can succeed in enforcing the law, notwithstanding this increased skill on the part of the violator, we may gradually return to the old days when the unscrupulous and their technical lawyers become more bold. We have to consider not only the statements on the labels, but those more widely read and more dangerous statements which can be made on billboards, in purchased advertising space, and by broadcasting, over which there is no control in the laws as they stand at present. It becomes a nice technical question how far advertising may be legally interpreted as defining the intent in the wording of an otherwise legal label....."

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# Section 4 MARKET QUOTATIONS

## Farm Products

Dec. 11.--Livestock prices: Slaughter cattle, calves, and vealers: Steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$9-13.50; cows, good and choice \$5.25-7.50; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$8.50-12.50; Vealers, good and choice \$7.75-10.50; Feeder and stocker cattle: Steers, good and choice \$7-9; Heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$7.55-7.75; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$7.65-7.90; Slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$7.40-7.80 (Soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations); Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$7-8.10; Feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$5.50-7.50.

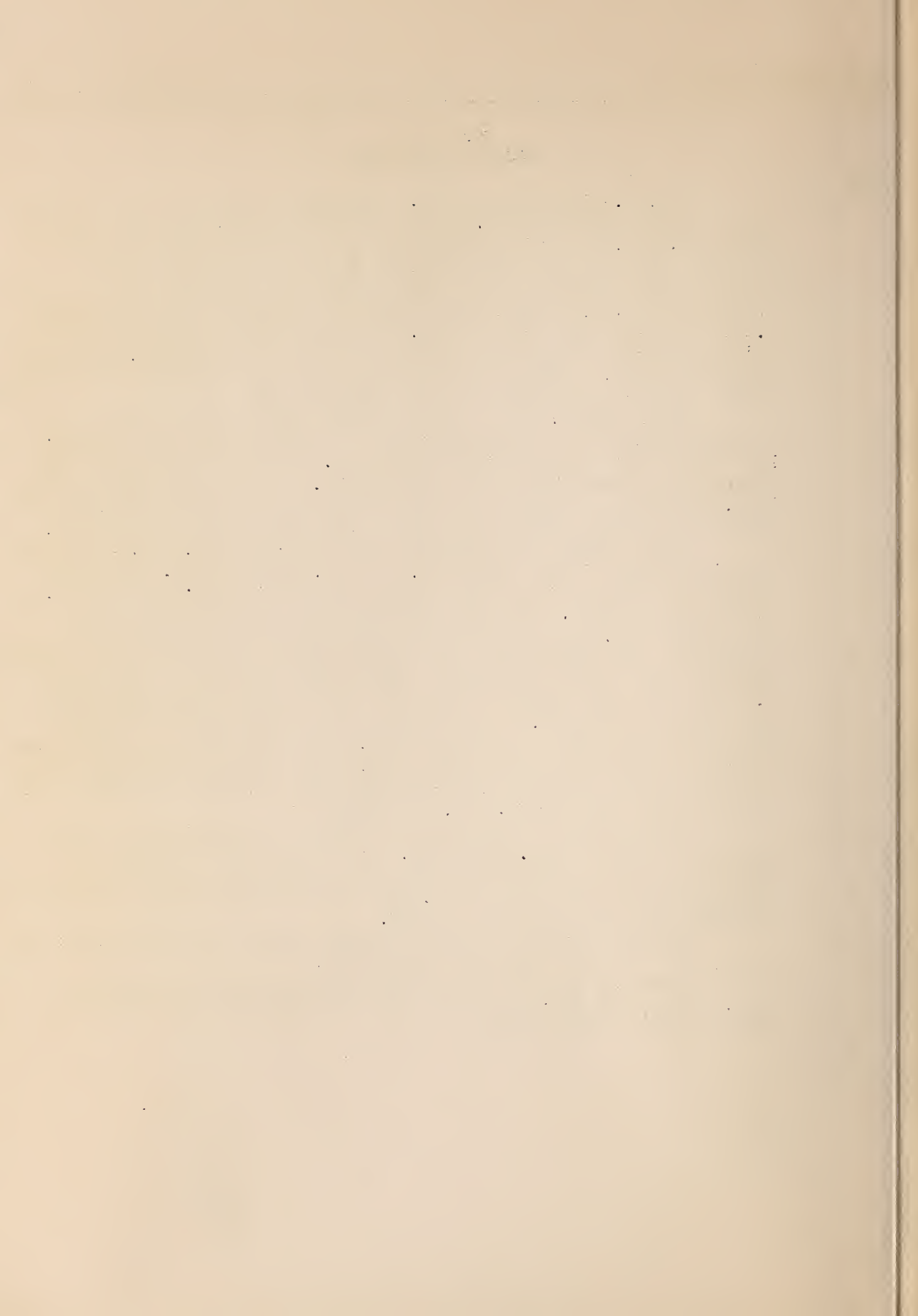
Grain prices: No. 1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis 77-3/8-81-3/8¢; No. 2 red winter St. Louis 84-85¢; No. 2 hard winter Kansas City 71½-72¢; No. 3 mixed corn Chicago 70¢; Minneapolis 62-64¢; Kansas City 64-66¢; No. 3 yellow corn Chicago 70¼-72½¢; Minneapolis 65½-68¢; St. Louis 72½¢; Kansas City 67-69½¢; No. 3 white oats Chicago 35-36¢; Minneapolis 31½-32½¢; Kansas City 34-35¢.

Maine sacked Green Mountain potatoes ranged \$1.75-2.05 per 100 lbs. in eastern cities; mostly \$1.25 f.o.b. Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites \$1.40-1.50 carlot sales in Chicago; very few \$1.15-1.20 f.o.b. Waupaca. New York and Midwestern sacked yellow onions brought \$1.10-1.60 per 100 lbs. in city markets; very few \$1-1.05 f.o.b. Rochester. New York Danish type cabbage \$20-26 bulk per ton in terminal markets: \$15 f.o.b. Rochester. South Carolina Pointed type \$1.75-2.25 per 1½ bushel hamper in the East. Delaware and Maryland yellow sweet potatoes \$1.15-1.75 per bushel hamper in the East. Tennessee Nancy Halls \$1-1.40 in the Middle West. New York McIntosh apples \$1.50-2; Rhode Island Greenings \$1.12½-1.37½; Romes \$1.25 and Baldwins \$1.25-1.37½ per bushel basked in New York City; Rhode Island Greenings, cold storage stock, one car \$1.60 f.o.b. Rochester.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets declined 14 points to 9.15¢ per lb. On the same day last year the price was 16.58¢. New December futures contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 19 points to 9.85¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 15 points to 9.88¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 33¢; 91 score, 32½¢; 90 score, 31½¢.

Wholesale prices of No. 1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 17½-20¢; Single Daisies, 17½-18¢; Young Americas, 18¢. (Prep. by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)





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Vol. XXXIX, No. 63

Section 1

December 13, 1930.

## EMERGENCY RELIEF BILL

The press to-day says: "...The House yesterday indicated a willingness to back up President Hoover by voting to disagree to the Senate amendments to the emergency relief bill, passed by the Senate, which increased the appropriation it carries from \$110,000,000 to \$118,000,000 and eliminated the discretion given to the President of transferring expenditures from one project to another...."

## FEDERAL SALARY BILL

The House yesterday repudiated the Wood amendment prohibiting any increases in pay for Federal employees in the next fiscal year, the press to-day reports.

## BOULDER CANYON LEGISLATION

The Interior Department supply bill, carrying \$15,000,000 for work on the Boulder Canyon project in the next fiscal year, was passed by the House yesterday. (Press, Dec. 13.)

## BANK CLOSINGS

A Chicago dispatch to-day states that six small banks in South Dakota, Iowa and Illinois were closed yesterday for the protection of their depositors. The report says: "The banks, whose total capital was about \$250,000, were the Security State Bank of Gayville, Citizens State Bank of Colman and Brown County Banking Company of Groton, all in South Dakota; the Exchange Bank at Marcus and the Ellston Savings Bank at Ellston, both in Iowa, and the Christopher State Bank of Christopher, Ill."

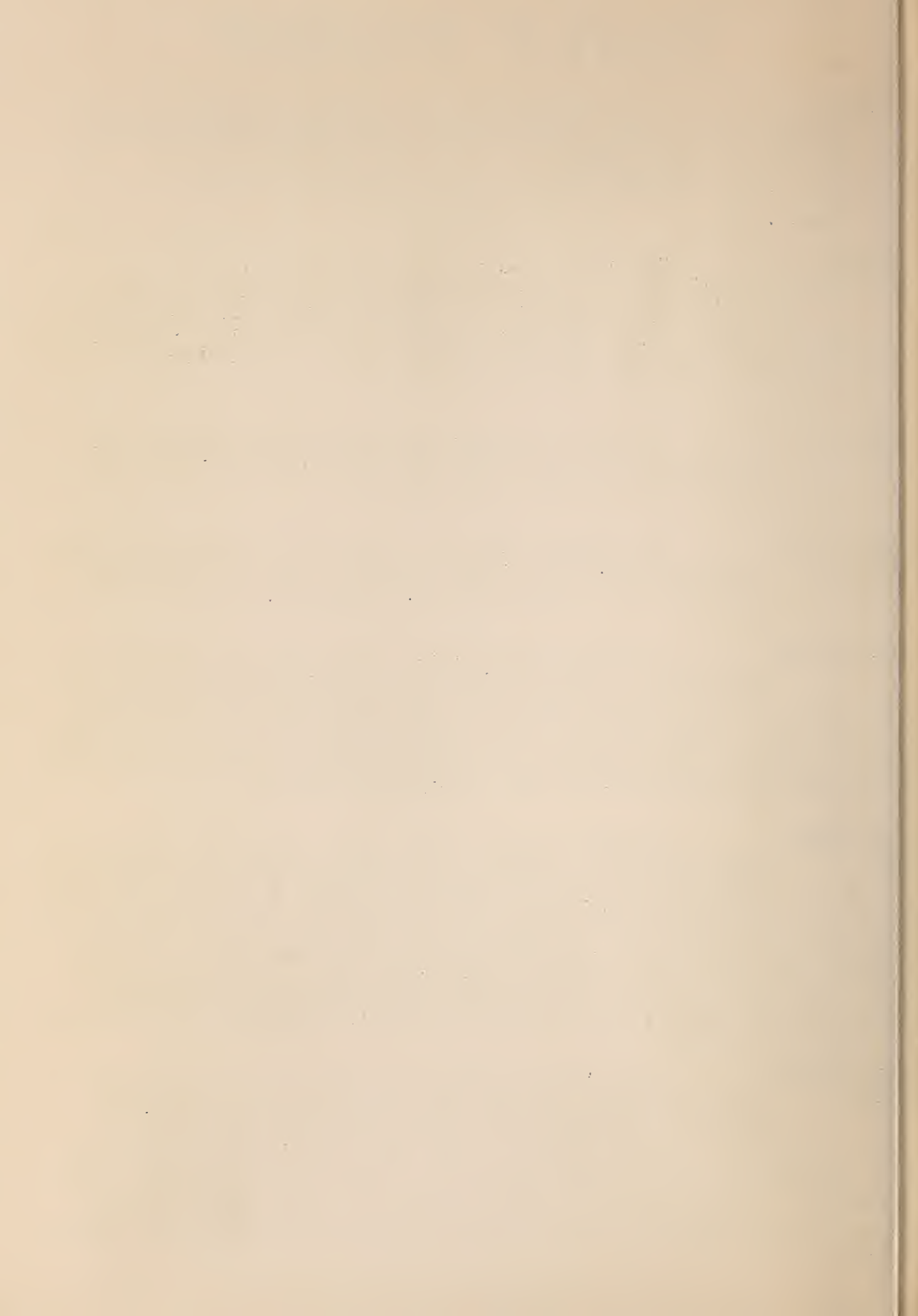
## SUGAR CONFER- ENCE

A Brussels dispatch to-day states that at the international sugar conference at Brussels yesterday the Cuban-American delegation proposed that next year's export be reduced to 1,229,000 tons. The Europeans accepted this figure in principle, but suggested that this figure should be exclusive of one-fifth of their stock now on hand, which would bring the annual export total to 1,508,000 tons--greater than last year's export aggregate. The report says: "Thomas L. Chadbourne flatly refused this proposal, pointing out that the only way to a solution was a drastic cut in exportation. 'We are willing to fail, but not to fake,' declared Mr. Chadbourne. 'We are willing to die, but not to duck.'...."

## EGYPTIAN COTTON FUTURES

A Cairo dispatch December 12 states that the government cotton commission announced that it had suspended all jobbers' business in Alexandria for fifteen days, beginning December 11.

A Cairo dispatch to-day says: "Some trading in cotton is still progressing on the Alexandria Bourse, but it is confined to brokers. Replying to the jobbers' protests of illegality at their suspension from trading, the president of the Bourse pointed out that a Bourse rule permits such a step when necessary. Cotton prices in the last few days have been firm despite lower American prices."



## Section 2

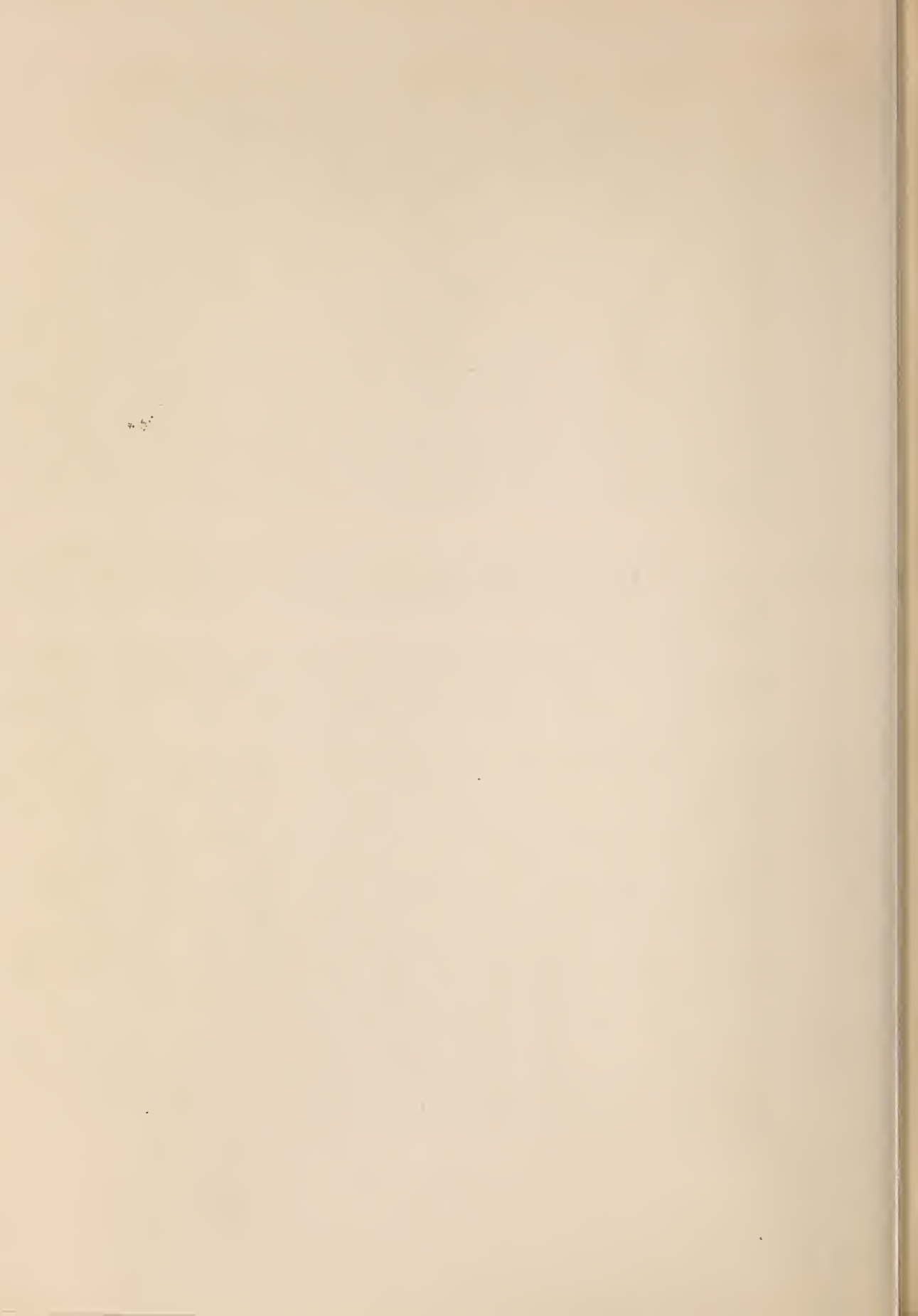
Game  
Policies

An editorial entitled "The Game Restoration Program" in National Sportsman for January says: "The time is rapidly drawing nearer when sportsmen can no longer bury their heads in the sand to avoid the unpleasant realization that the end of free hunting as it exists to-day is in sight. Some system must be devised which will maintain a supply of game sufficient to meet the demands of an ever increasing number of hunters. The game policy to-day is fundamentally the same as that which obtained fifty or one hundred years ago when hunters were few, land cheap and game plentiful. A new policy must be adopted which will bring together in a feasible effective program of game restoration the land owners, the sportsmen and the public so that the areas suitable for game and for hunting may be utilized to the best advantages of all. The need for a modern American game policy has long been recognized. A definite start towards a solution of the problem has been made by the American Game Conference, of the American Game Protective Association. At the Conference in 1928 a committee of fourteen men was chosen to prepare a tentative game policy....The first report of this committee has just been published. An American game policy has been proposed. It vitally affects every sportsman, nature lover, conservation officer, farmer, lumberman, stockman, educator and biologist. ..."

New York  
Bank Closes

A New York dispatch yesterday stated that the Bank of United States, a commercial bank with sixty offices in New York City, closed its doors on Thursday and placed its affairs in the hands of the State Banking Department.

An editorial in The Wall Street Journal for December 12 says: "Failure of the Bank of United States, a New York institution of moderate size even though its deposits approximate \$200,000,000, comes as no surprise. Leading bankers have for some weeks been working anxiously to avert such an outcome, and when the bank's suspension of payment became clearly unavoidable the Clearing House Association here readily provided a fund from which to advance loans to depositors of the failed bank up to 50 per cent of their claims. That fund remains available for the purpose, insuring depositors a substantial measure of immediate relief. For that prompt helpful action the participating banks are entitled to no little credit. But the significance of their action goes beyond its usefulness to depositors in this one bank. It testifies convincingly to the confidence of the banking fraternity of New York in the local credit situation. Obviously, they would not have put so large a fund at the disposal of depositors of one bank in difficulties without satisfying knowledge that its plight was highly exceptional and not a widespread condition...It remains for bank depositors in general to keep their heads and to remember that this first bank failure here of any moment since the market slump of 1929 comes more than a year after that event. That time interval alone is no slight assurance that necessary adjustments in the affairs of banking institutions have been largely if not wholly completed. The closing of one bank unable to effect such adjustment should create no false impressions concerning other banks."





## Noise

## Abatement

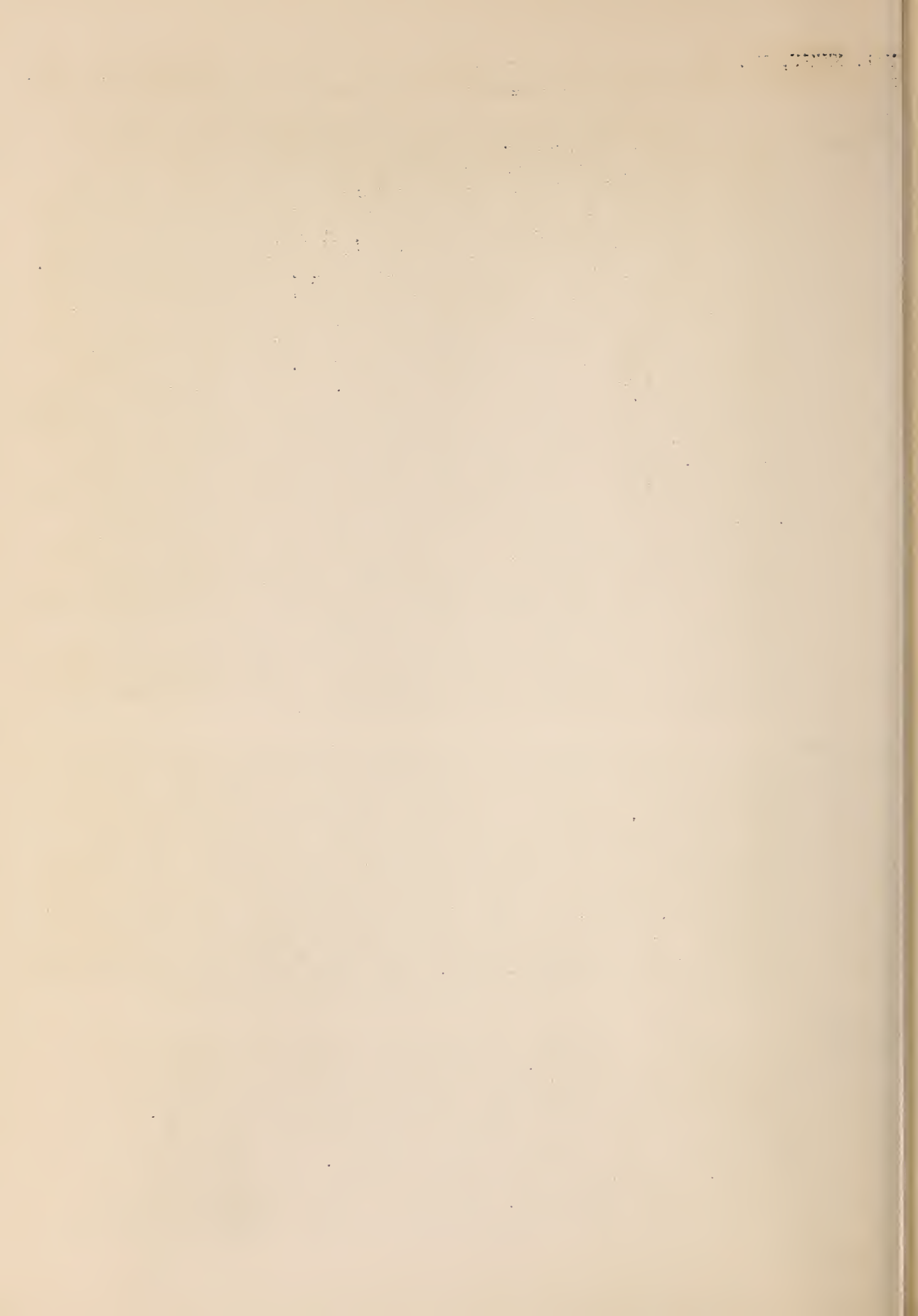
The British Medical Journal for November 29 says: "When, in 1928 and 1929, the press was calling for measures to mitigate the noise nuisance, and the British Medical Association, which had been largely responsible for the public interest in the subject, was formulating proposals to secure this end and bringing them to the attention of the Government departments concerned, it seemed that here, perhaps, was a campaign that would not end till its objectives had been gained. The agitation in the newspapers has died down; the association and the other important public bodies who interested themselves in the subject have passed to other business; the Government has tinkered with one of two of the worst acoustic outrages; but the hooting and rattling, the hubbub and clatter, go on exactly as before...They order, it seems, these matters better in the United States. In the most populous city of that country the public health authorities have not only investigated with immense thoroughness the problems created by urban noise, but by the press and the radio, by poster and pamphlet and by every other available means of publicity, they impel the masses, on whose behalf they are working, to be interested in and to approve what is being done on their behalf. A report lately published by the Noise Abatement Commission of the Department of Health, New York, is a model of what such a document should be. In language that all may read and understand, and with a wealth of illustrations, including photographs, charts, cartoons, and simple graphs, it explains to the American public not only the conclusions that have been arrived at by the body of physicians, neurologists, otologists, lawyers, physicists, and engineers of which the commission is composed, but how, by its own efforts, the public can contribute to the elimination of this unpleasant and even dangerous by-product of our machine age..."

## Price Stabilization

A London dispatch to the press of December 12 states that a plea for general stabilization of prices and exchanges was made before the American Chamber of Commerce at London on Thursday by Sir Basil Blackett, chairman of Imperial and International Communications, Ltd. The report says: "A stable price level is essential for real human progress in the twentieth century," said Sir Basil, who asserted that violent price fluctuations caused monetary instability and consequent trade depressions. His attitude on prices was opposed, however, by Francis E. Powell, chairman of the Anglo-American Oil Company, who presided. 'It is far more important to have stabilization of exchanges than of prices,' said Mr. Powell. 'All interest in life would be taken from business men if prices remained perpetually fixed.'..."

## Scientific Writing

Nature (London) for November 29 says: "Arnold Bennett, in the course of an article in the Evening Standard of November 20 on Sir James Jeans's book, 'The Mysterious Universe,' pays Nature a compliment which we gratefully acknowledge. He says: 'My esteem for Nature is enormous, for I have learnt a tremendous lot from it. But the writing of it is considerably inferior to the matter of it.' ... We suggest to him, however, in all humility, that similar examples of careless construction could be selected from the pages of any issue of any literary periodical, and that his generalization is scarcely just to us. We can not pretend that the highly specialized subjects





of modern science can always be described in words of common speech, but we do endeavor to maintain a high standard of English in contributions generally, and we regret as much as anyone when slipshod or ambiguous phrases escape our notice. It would be easy, however, to find on almost every page of every issue of the Evening Standard worse examples of hasty or clumsy writing than the two quoted by Mr. Bennett from a single article in Nature..."

Southern  
Rural  
Health  
Work

Manufacturers Record for December 11 says: "'The South leads in the United States in rural health work,' says the News Letter of the University of North Carolina. The nine specially progressive Southern States are Alabama, Maryland, South Carolina, Louisiana, North Carolina, Tennessee, Kentucky, Mississippi and West Virginia. They rank among the first 11 States in the country in the efficacy of their rural health work. The other two in this 11 are Ohio and Washington. The value of such work as it affects the life, health and happiness of our people can not be computed in terms of dollars and cents. But an estimate can be made of the national economic loss in wage earnings and in other items incident to sickness which could be prevented by reasonably efficient county health service, and it has been placed at a million dollars a year...In many ways the South has corrected conditions detrimental to good health. Lowlands have been drained, streams have been cleansed of pollution and other waters have been opened to natural purification. County health service has contributed largely to this achievement."

Western  
Farming

An editorial in Implement & Tractor Trade Journal for December 6 says: "Any analysis of future potentiality for farm machinery selling, based on the recent census returns on the number of farms, affords much encouragement for the industry. While the number of farms actually shows a decrease, as was to be expected from the trend shown in previous census reports, it is encouraging to note that the actual number is increasing in the sections which best lend themselves to power farming. This is particularly true in sections west of the Mississippi River. While no reports have as yet been made on farm acreage, there is no doubt that the acreage especially in Western States will also show an increase, as the past decade has seen much new land brought into production. The census definitely shows that eastern agriculture on high-priced land is gradually giving way to the more profitable large-scale methods on the lower priced lands of the West. This, of course, means greatly increased tonnage to the implement manufacturing establishments. It means that where the industry has formerly sold a sulky plow it now sells a tractor and tractor plow, a combine instead of the binder, etc. Eastern agriculture doubtless will eventually find its place in the production of specialized crops, but the census shows that the centers of production of the more important agricultural crops are moving rapidly westward...."



# Section 4 MARKET QUOTATIONS

## Farm Products

Dec. 12.--Livestock prices: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers; steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$9 to \$13.50; cows, good and choice \$5 to \$7.25; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$8.50 to \$12.50; vealers, good and choice \$7.50 to \$10; feeder and stocker cattle; steers good and choice \$7 to \$9; heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$7.60 to \$7.85; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$7.80 to \$8; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$7.50 to \$8; (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$7.25 to \$8.10; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$5.50 to \$7.50.

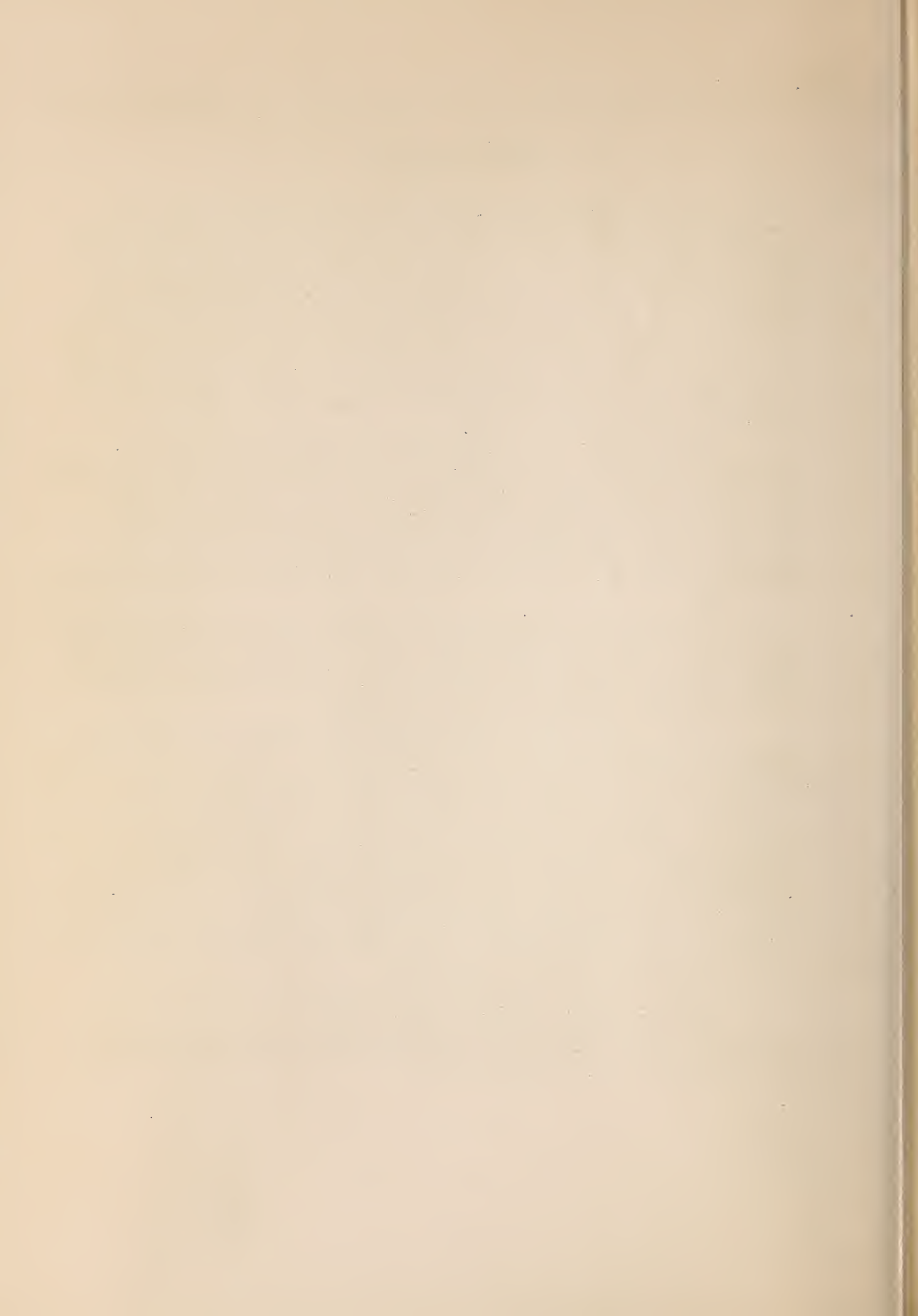
Grain prices: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis  $77\frac{1}{2}$  to  $81\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.2 red winter St. Louis 83 to 84¢; No.2 hard winter Chicago  $78\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; Kansas City 71 to  $71\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.3 mixed corn Chicago  $69\frac{3}{4}$  to  $70\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Minneapolis 61 to 63¢; Kansas City  $63\frac{1}{2}$  to 66¢; No.3 yellow corn Chicago 70 to 72¢; Minneapolis 65 to 67¢; St. Louis  $71\frac{1}{2}$  to 72¢; Kansas City 67 to 69¢; No.3 white oats Chicago  $34\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Minneapolis 30  $7/8$  to 31  $7/8$ ¢; St. Louis  $35\frac{3}{4}$  to 36¢; Kansas City 34 to 35¢.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets declined 16 points to 8.99¢ per lb. On the same day one year ago the price stood at 16.61¢. New December future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 15 points to 9.70¢ and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 18 points to 9.70¢.

Maine sacked Green Mountain potatoes ranged \$1.75-\$2.05 per 100 pounds in eastern cities; \$1.25-\$1.30 f.o.b. Presque Isle. Eastern sacked Round Whites \$1.65-\$1.75 in Baltimore; \$1.45-\$1.57 f.o.b. Rochester, New York. New York Danish type cabbage \$20-\$24 bulk per ton in terminal markets; 90-pound sacks per ton basis \$16-\$17 f.o.b. Rochester. Delaware and Maryland yellow sweet potatoes \$1.15-\$1.75 per bushel hamper in eastern cities. Tennessee Nancy Halls \$1-\$1.40 in the Middle West. New York and Midwestern sacked yellow onions \$1.10-\$1.35 per 100 pounds in consuming centers; 95¢-\$1 f.o.b. West Michigan points. New York McIntosh apples \$1.50-\$1.75; Rhode Island Greenings \$1.25-\$1.37½ per bushel basket in New York City. Vermont Rhode Island Greenings \$4.50 per barrel in New York.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 33¢; 91 score,  $32\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; 90 score, 31¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats,  $17\frac{1}{2}$  to 20¢; Single Daisies,  $17\frac{1}{2}$  to 18¢; Young Americas, 18¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)





# DAILY DIGEST

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Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

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Vol. XXXIX, No. 64

Section 1

December 15, 1930.

## THE DROUGHT BILL

The press to-day states that an effort will be made in the House to-day to substitute the House measure appropriating \$30,000,000 for drought relief for the Senate bill carrying \$60,000,000, opposed by President Hoover. The report says: "Speaker Longworth will suspend the rules for consideration of the measure reported by the committee on agriculture. This action must be upheld by a two-thirds vote. Under suspension of the rules no amendments can be offered and the vote must be taken on adoption of the House measures....The chief objection of administration supporters to the Senate bill is not so much to the size of the appropriation as to the provision that the funds shall be lent for buying clothing and human food. ..."

## SCIENCE AWARDS

Dr. George H. Whipple of the University of Rochester and Dr. George R. Minot of Harvard Medical School are the joint winners of Popular Science Monthly's first annual award of \$10,000 "for the current achievement in science of greatest benefit to the public," Raymond J. Brown, editor of the magazine, announced yesterday. Doctor Whipple is credited with discovering a cure for pernicious anemia and Doctor Minot with making the cure applicable to human beings. (Press, Dec. 15.)

## UNEMPLOYMENT FIGURES

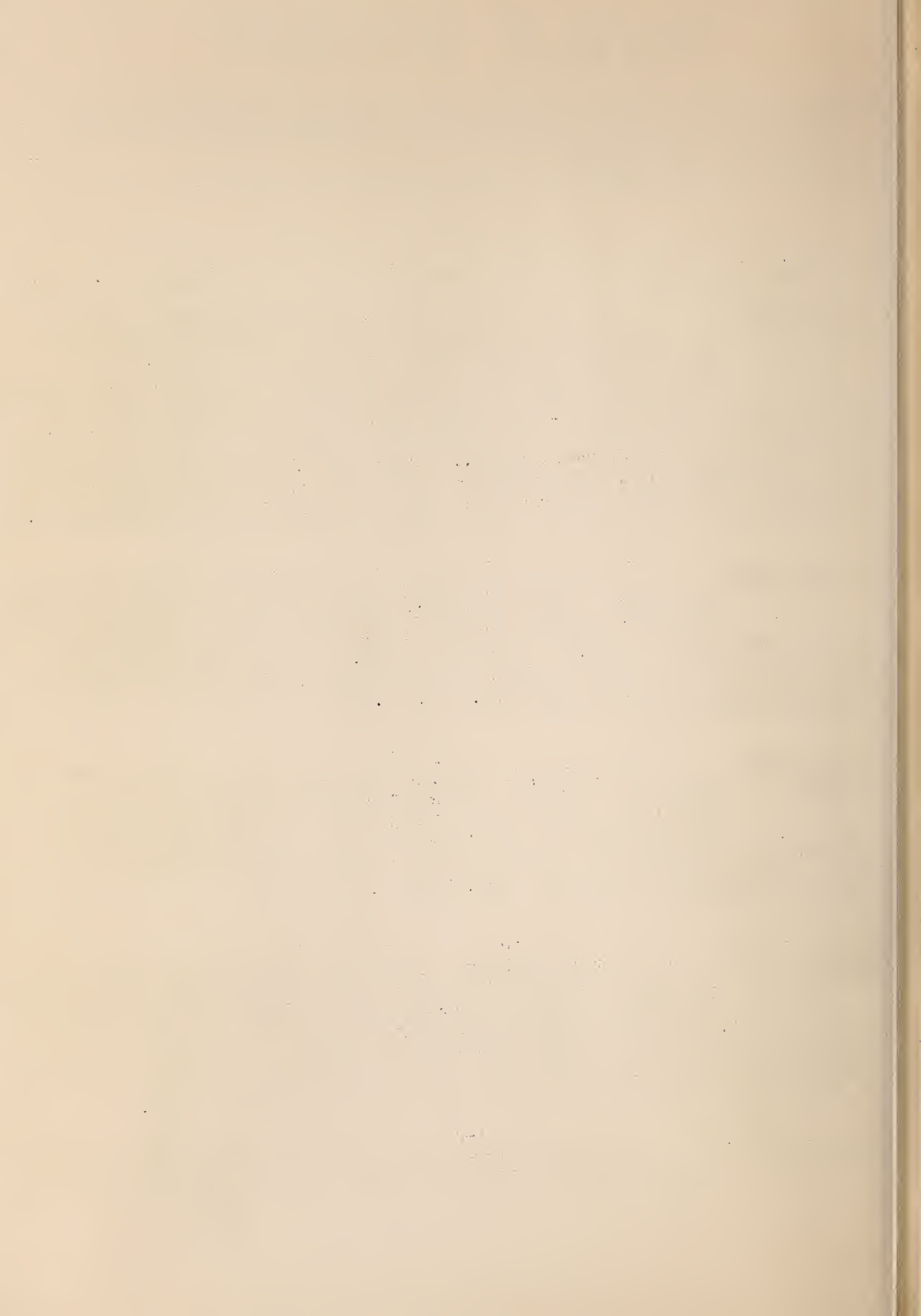
The number of unemployed in twenty-five entire States, the District of Columbia, Buffalo, Rochester and Philadelphia on April 1 was placed by the Census Bureau December 13 at 756,410, including those listed as having jobs but temporarily laid off without pay. The population of the territory under review is 42,858,298, or about one-third of the total for the country. Thus those seeking employment or laid off constitute 1.7 per cent. (Press, Dec. 14.)

## EGYPTIAN TARIFF REQUEST

A Cairo dispatch to the press of December 14 says: "At a conference on Saturday between Premier Sidky and William M. Jardine, the American Minister to Egypt, at which the Egyptian Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Agriculture and the Under Secretary of Finance also were present, Premier Sidky requested Mr. Jardine to endeavor to have the United States reduce the present high tariff, especially on commodities exported by Egypt. The principal items are cotton, onions and manganese ores...."

## EGYPTIAN SUGAR DUTY

A Cairo dispatch to-day states that the council of ministers yesterday increased the sugar import duty from 440 to 700 piasters a ton, and at the same time voted to create a government monopoly.



## Section 2

Banks and  
Farmers

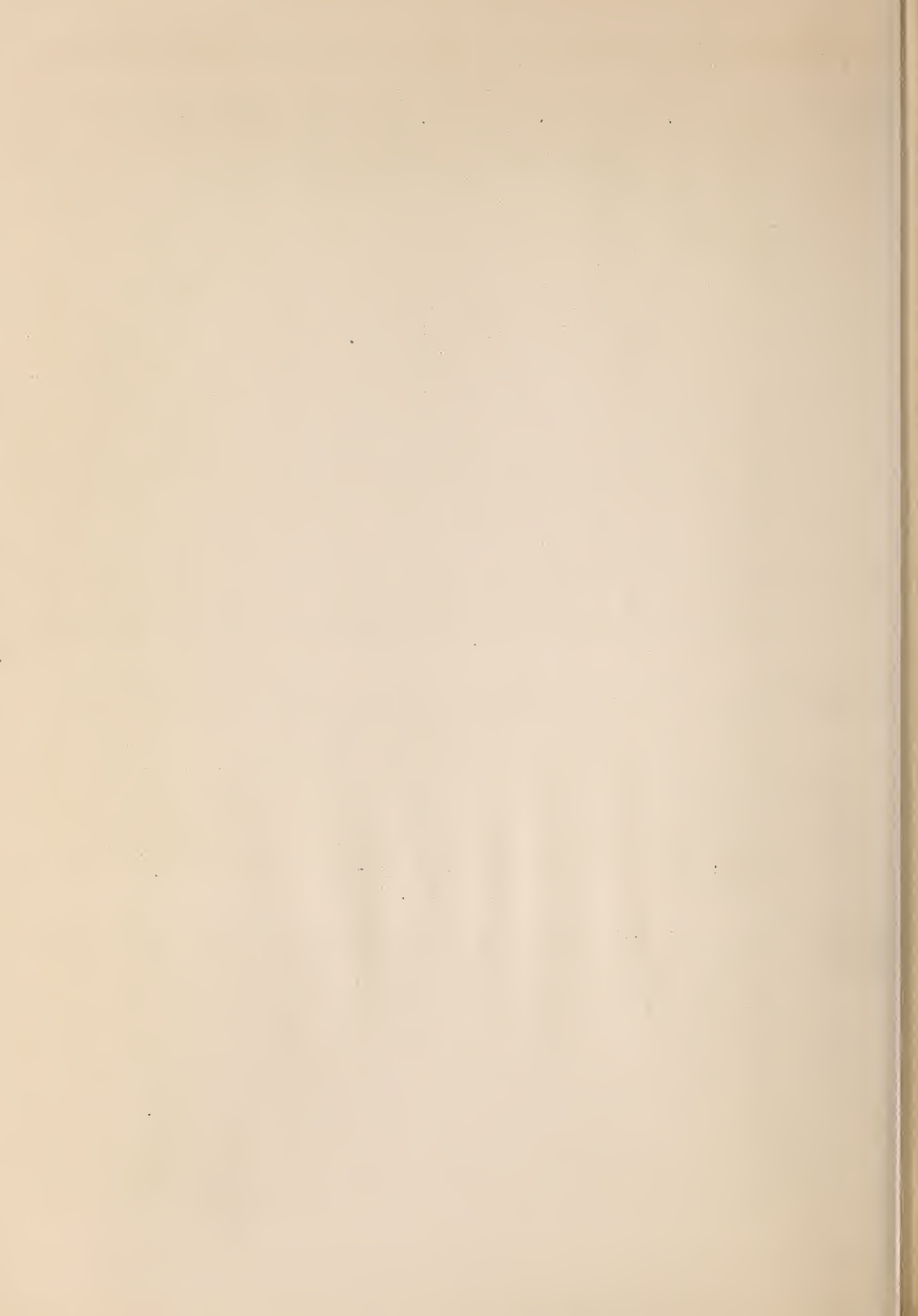
F. D. Farrell, president, Kansas State Agricultural College, writing under the title "Banks and Farmers in Step" in American Bankers Association Journal for December, says: "What farmers do is influenced profoundly by what their bankers do. Every time a banker has a financial contact with a farmer the latter is influenced, for good or ill. This fact justifies the keen interest of the American Bankers Association in banker-farmer work. In simple terms the ultimate objective of that work is to help increase the beneficial influence of bankers upon farming and to reduce detrimental influences; to utilize to the fullest possible extent the bankers' power in aiding the farmer to provide satisfactory answers to the customer's two basic questions. How many bankers increase their beneficial influence upon farming and so aid in sound agricultural development?...Bankers may discourage unsound farm practices. This was illustrated in some Kansas counties a few years ago in connection with the importation of dairy cattle. A large shipment of very inferior cattle came into a county to be sold at auction to local farmers. The dairy business was especially popular at that time and many farmers without adequate dairy experience planned to patronize the auction sale. The county agricultural agent informed the local bankers that the purchase of the inferior cattle by local farmers would be a detriment to the community. The bankers thereupon refused to finance the purchase of the cattle and the auction sale was abandoned. The cattle were shipped into another county; but the county agent there did as was done in the first instance and so did the bankers, and the second county escaped. The bankers cooperating with the county agents said 'no' wisely and so helped the dairy industry of their communities..."

Cereal Control  
in China

Public rice granaries are to be established in Shanghai to regulate the price of cereals and prevent famines, following instructions recently issued by the Administrative Yuan of the national government to all provincial and municipal governments. It is hoped that the new granaries will prevent the hoarding of cereals by private merchants who later profit by the demand for their goods by raising prices to unfair levels. In order to carry out the official order, the Committee of Social Affairs of Greater Shanghai, acting on orders from the Mayor's office, has appointed a committee to raise \$1,000,000 toward the establishment of the new granaries. (Press, Dec. 13.)

Concrete Roads  
and Elec-  
tricity

An editorial in Wallaces' Farmer for December 13 says: "Concrete roads and electric lines crisscrossing the middle west are going to have more effect on both farm and city folks than most of us now imagine....Concrete roads and electricity make decentralization really practical for the first time. A generation ago, the great railroad builders, such as 'Jim' Hill, foresaw the significance of railroads in terms of the new towns and industries which would be necessary. We now need even wiser men to understand the new-day industry which cement roads and electricity will bring to the countryside. Electricity holds the key to the new situation, and electric rate structures are going to be just as important as railroad rate structures were thirty years ago. The open country factories which are able to get their electricity at less than two cents per kilowatt hour will be on a preferential basis over those that have to pay five cents per kilowatt hour. For a time

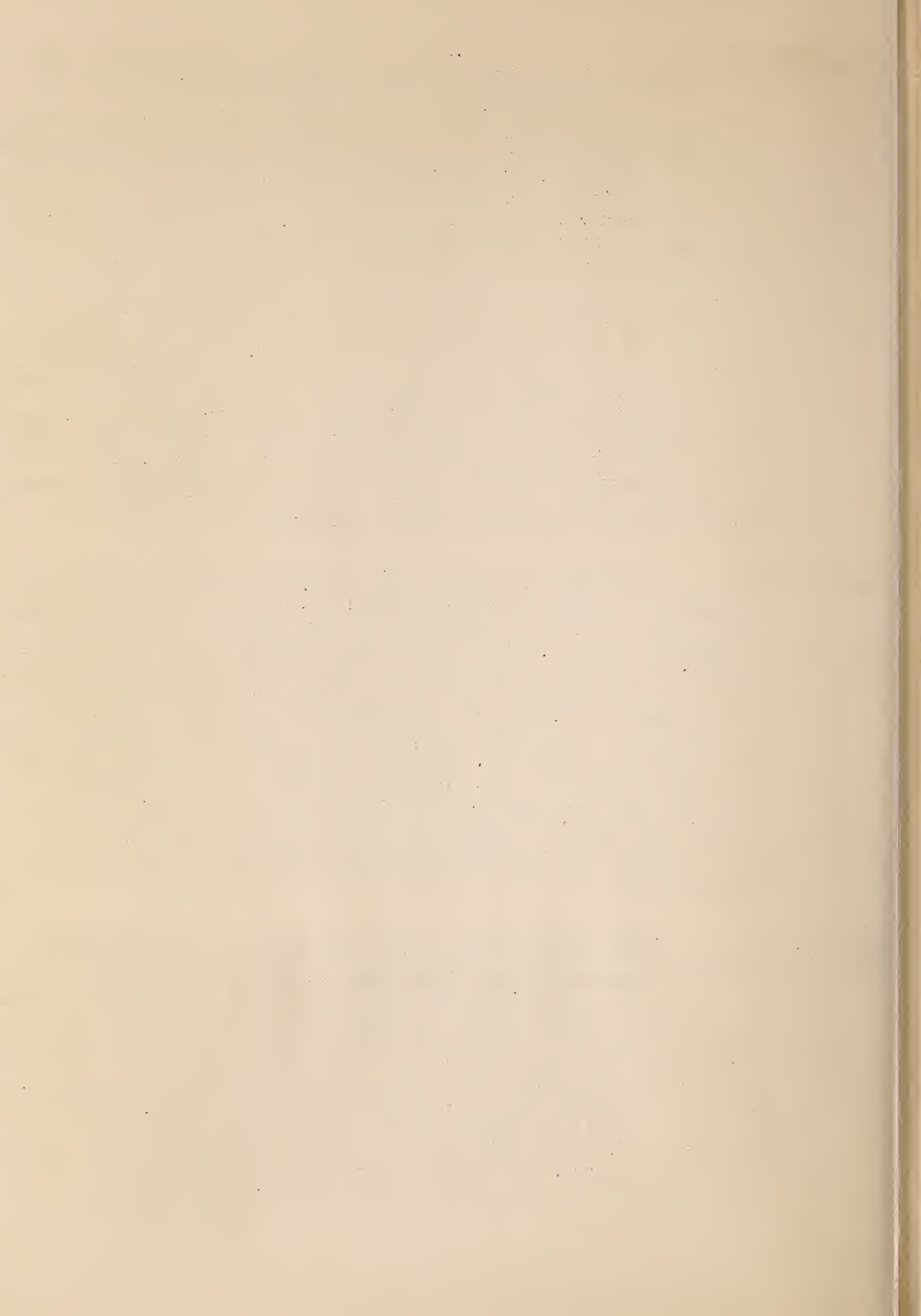




there doubtless will be rebating of one sort and another. But with all of the bad things growing out of imperfectly adjusted electricity rates, there will grow up in the middle-west open-country industries of which we can all be proud. We can imagine the small manufacturing centers of the future, with the factories on one side of the concrete highway and the stores and residences on the other side. If the 'string town' were only three or four streets wide but several miles long, it would be possible to have farmers living with their houses in the town but with their land stretched out back of the town. Furthermore, if the factories did the greater part of their work during the winter time, it would be possible for the men who helped out with the farm work during the summer to find jobs locally for the winter. If some cooperative genius could set a group of people on fire with the technical possibilities of combining small scale manufacturing during the winter with agriculture in the summer, we believe that some very significant things might be accomplished....To make the dream which we have in mind come true, it will be necessary to work out new types of machinery for rather medium-sized factories and a new type of distribution. Something of this sort must be done if we are to prevent the big cities from sucking dry the life-blood of the countryside."

**Cotton Acreage Reduction**      An editorial in The Wall St. Journal for December 12 says: "At a recent meeting of southern bankers in New Orleans, a resolution was passed favoring the 'Garrett plan' for reduction of cotton acreage which, they said, was necessary to save the South from the disaster of five-cent cotton. There is much to be said in favor of this resolution; nevertheless, reduction plans carry within themselves possibilities of dangers greater than those they seek to remove. The author of this plan, J. E. Garrett, is president of the Texas State Bank and Trust Company of Corpus Christi, and, like most southern bankers, knows cotton from the ground up. The plan calls for a 25 per cent reduction from 1931 to 1936, the land released to be put to other production. Compliance with the plan would be obtained by bankers agreeing not to finance any farmer who plants a greater acreage to cotton than established by this rule. As cotton can not be produced without a great deal of credit, the plan, if adhered to, would achieve the aim of its sponsors..."

**Medicine and Racial Degeneration**      London correspondence of The Journal of the American Medical Association for December 13 says: "At the annual dinner of the Royal Society of Medicine, Doctor Barnes, F.R.S., Bishop of Birmingham, who is an eminent mathematician and has been described as a liaison officer between science and religion, discussed the possible dysgenic effect of medicine in producing racial degeneration. There might come a time when biochemistry would enable medicine to give an immunity to ill health such as had been enjoyed only by exceptional individuals in the past... It was now known that dysgenic mutations could occur alike in plants and in animals, as it were spontaneously. Having appeared, they could be inherited and, unless eliminated by a hostile environment, they remained a permanent menace. Now medical science destroyed the power of hostile environment but left inheritable characters untouched. Mental defect



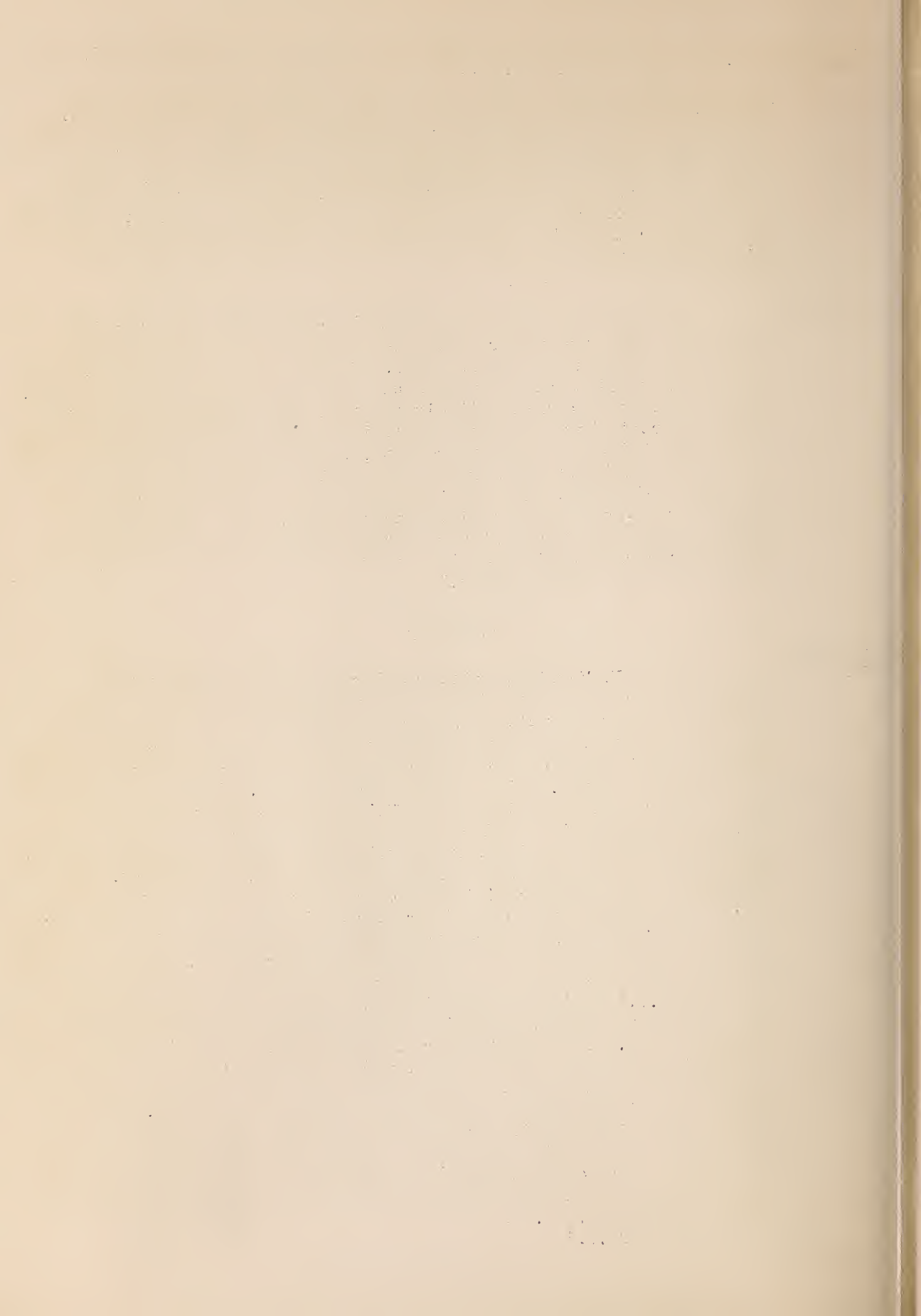
was a dysgenic mutation which was a grave menace to social welfare. Mental defectives already numbered nearly 1 per cent of the community, and the families in which the defect was latent made up inferior racial stocks amounting to some 10 per cent of the community. What would happen to humanity during the relatively inexhaustible future? Would medicine conquer disease and would our descendants, perfect in body and more powerful in brain, create Utopia? Or would the age of the mammals, which had endured for some 60 million years, pass away? The great reptiles had vanished...."

**Wool Market**      The Commercial Bulletin (Boston) for December 13 says: "The wool market has been in a rather bewildered frame of mind this week and prices have favored the buyers again. It appears that in all divisions of the market sales have been made below the parity of foreign markets, demand has favored almost entirely the fine and half-blood wools, with little interest shown in medium qualities. Some manufacturers report a little more interest in their products, but it is not sufficiently wide or intensive to boost the market any. Better things are hoped for with the turn of the year. The foreign markets are hardly changed for the week with respect to fine wools, although sales have been partly suspended on account of the untoward market conditions. Crossbreds in South America are possibly a bit easier. London closes Saturday with prices about on opening levels."

### Section 3

**Department of  
Agriculture**

George H. Manning, writing under the title, "Agricultural Press Group Active as Farm News Makes Page One," in Editor and Publisher for December 13, says in part: "Agricultural news, during the last 18 months, has been crowding politics for first place in the demand of the Washington correspondents and the press generally throughout the United States. The annual report of M. S. Eisenhower, Director of the Bureau of Information of the United States Department of Agriculture, offers convincing evidence of this fact. It shows that the information activities of the bureau during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1930, were the most extensive in the history of the department. The explanation of the exceptional interest in agricultural matters on the part of the metropolitan press is rather obvious. With the establishment of the Federal Farm Board and enactment of the agricultural marketing act, the agricultural activities of the Government became of immediate and profound interest to several very important commercial elements in city life...Immediately following the close of the fiscal year came the spectacular drought, involving some 15 States in unprecedented losses in crops. The calamity was of spectacular proportions and almost anything in the way of information or discussion of 'the big drought' had exceptional news value. As a result the information service of the Department of Agriculture has been one of the most active departments in the Federal Government. As a further result, the city reader has been acquiring the habit of reading agricultural news...It is a matter of general comment among Washington correspondents that the press contact service in the Department of Agriculture is one of the most efficient in Washington. C. E. Gopen has been chief of the Press Service for several years..."





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Section 4  
MARKET QUOTATIONS

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Farm  
Products

Dec. 13.--Livestock prices: Heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$7.65 to \$7.90; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$7.85 to \$8; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$7.50 to \$8 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations).

Grain prices: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis 76  $\frac{3}{8}$  to 80  $\frac{3}{8}$ ¢; No.2 red winter St. Louis 82 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 83 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.2 hard winter Kansas City 70 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.3 mixed corn Chicago 68 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 69 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Minneapolis 59 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 61 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City 62 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 65¢; No.3 yellow corn Chicago 68 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 70¢; Minneapolis 63 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 65 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; St. Louis 69 to 71¢; Kansas City 66 to 68¢; No.3 white oats Chicago 33¢; Minneapolis 29 $\frac{3}{4}$  to 30 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; St. Louis 34 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 35¢; Kansas City 34 to 35¢.

Maine sacked Green Mountain potatoes ranged \$1.70-\$2.05 per 100 pounds in eastern cities; mostly \$1.30 f.o.b. Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites \$1.35-\$1.45 carlot sales in Chicago; very few \$1.15-\$1.20 f.o.b. Waupaca. New York Danish type cabbage \$20-\$24 bulk per ton in terminal markets; \$14-\$15 f.o.b. Rochester. South Carolina Pointed type \$1.75-\$2.25 per 1 $\frac{1}{2}$  bushel hamper in the East. New York and midwestern sacked yellow onions brought \$1-\$1.40 per 100 pounds in consuming centers; 90¢-95¢ f.o.b. West Michigan points. Delaware and Maryland yellow sweet potatoes \$1.25-\$1.50 per bushel hamper in city markets. Tennessee Nancy Halls \$1-\$1.25 in Chicago.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets declined 23 points to 8.76¢ per lb. On the same day one year ago the price was 16.53¢. New December future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 25 points to 9.45¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 25 points to 9.45¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 32 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; 91 score, 32¢; 90 score, 30 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 17 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 20¢; Single Daisies, 17 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Young Americas, 18¢.  
(Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

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# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XXXIX, No. 65

Section 1

December 16, 1930.

## FEDERAL SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET

President Hoover yesterday asked Congress for an extra \$91,526,740 to meet the bills of the Government this fiscal year. Nearly \$80,000,000 of this amount was included in the budget submitted for the fiscal year 1932, he said, and if approved by Congress would become available now instead of July 1. The estimates included: \$55,750,000 for veterans administration; \$34,713,980 for the Agriculture Department; \$615,760 for the Justice Department; \$327,000 for the Interior Department; \$12,500 for the Labor Department; \$30,000 for the State Department, and \$2,500 for the Executive Office. "Less than two million (dollars)," President Hoover explained, "represent new items and about ten million become necessary due to the change of wording of the emergency relief bill in respect to highways, the result of which is to impose this sum upon the regular budget and in effect increase emergency relief by that amount." (A.P., Dec. 16.)

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## RELIEF LEGISLATION

The Senate yesterday set aside the tentative agreement of conferees on the \$116,000,000 emergency employment appropriation.

The House yesterday rejected a move to suspend the rules and pass the \$30,000,000 administration drought relief program, according to the press to-day.

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## FEDERAL SALARY BILL

Salary increases recommended by President Hoover to bring under average salaries of employees in the Treasury and Post Office Departments up to the average provided in the classification law were put back in the annual Treasury-Post Office appropriation bill by the Senate yesterday, according to the press to-day. The report says: "The Senate also eliminated the so-called Wood amendment, which would have prohibited employees from getting even such increases as might be available due to deaths, resignations or other severances from the Government service. The action was taken on recommendation of the appropriations subcommittee, of which Senator Lawrence Phipps of Colorado, is chairman..."

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## THE PRESIDENT GRANTS DECEMBER 24 HOLIDAY

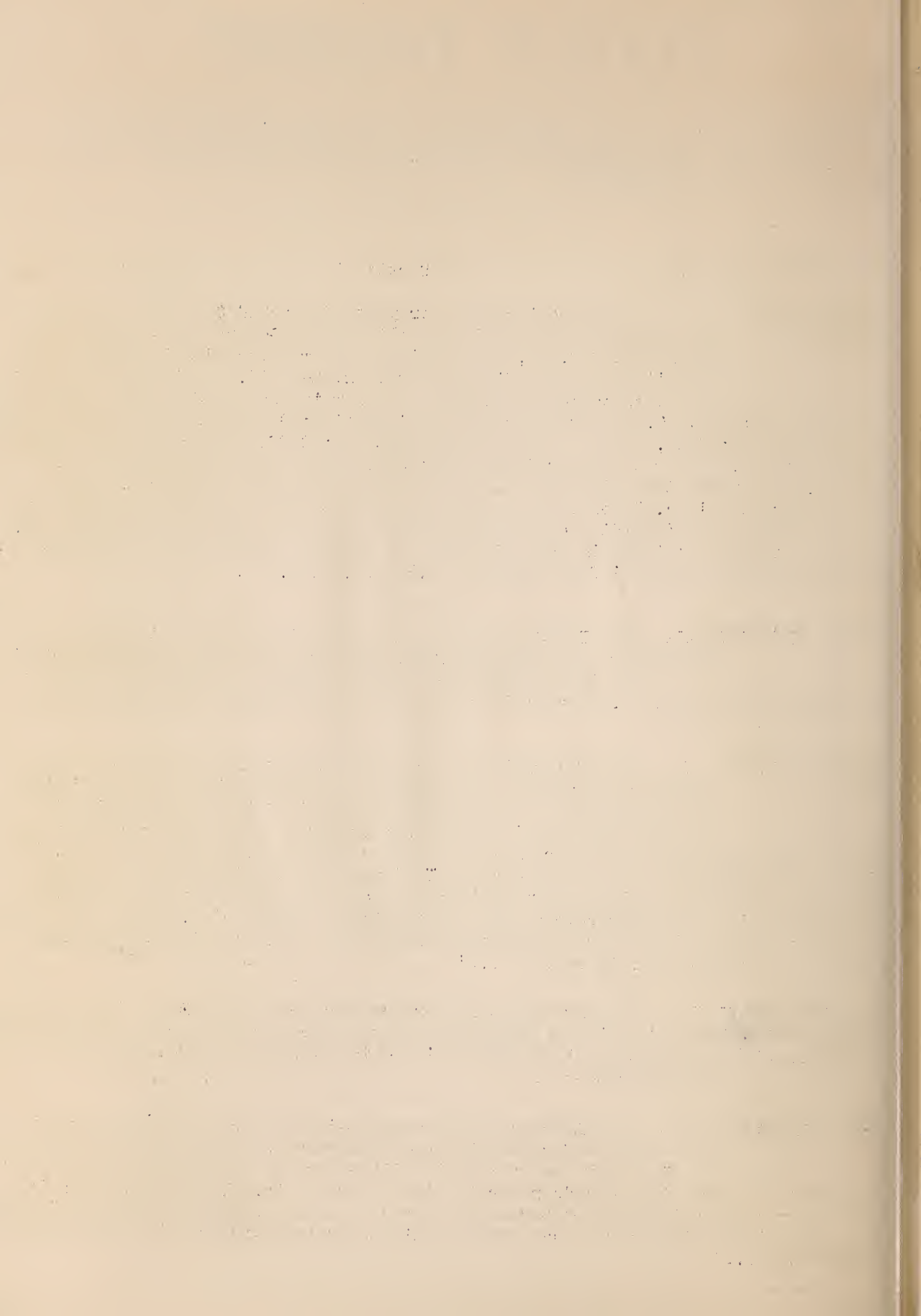
President Hoover yesterday issued an Executive order granting to all employees of the Federal Government in the District of Columbia a full day's holiday on December 24, according to the press to-day.

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## SUGAR CONFERENCE

A Brussels dispatch to-day states that the international sugar conference disbanded yesterday without reaching an agreement. The rock upon which it split was refusal of the German delegation to recede from its demands regarding its export quota. The report says: "All the interested nations except Germany believed that an agreement at this conference was the only possible way to save the world's sugar industry from the ills of overproduction..."

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## Section 2

Barnes's  
Business  
Report

Praise for some American industries for surmounting the effects of the business depression was given December 14 in a world-wide review of economic conditions for 1930, by Julius H. Barnes, chairman of the national business survey conference, appointed by President Hoover. Barnes said reports received from the chief lines of American business indicated that the "sanguine expectations generally held early in 1930 of greatly quickened trade before the end of the year have not materialized." The report pointed out also that the depression had existed throughout the world. Some signs of improvement were seen. "There is evidence of many industries having adapted themselves to current conditions and having successfully balanced production and market consumption," Barnes said in discussing conditions in the United States. Barnes said some improvement was shown in the United Kingdom, Germany and China, with Belgium, the Netherlands, Canada and Japan unchanged. The remaining nations, including France, showed a decline in general conditions, he said. Covering in most instances eleven months of the year, the survey showed a continued decline in foreign trade and a 7 per cent drop in retail trade. Postal receipts persisted below 1929 levels. (A.P. Dec. 15.)

Christmas  
Tree Market-  
ing

An editorial in New England Homestead for December 13 says: "There is another crop moving marketward from the farms of New England at this season, one that is not produced with the usual routine of plowing, planting, and cultivating. New England's yearly Christmas tree harvest is on in full swing. Largely a by-product of her thousands of acres of woodland and pastures, the crop, in reality, is a gift of nature, as man's influence over it is quite limited when compared to the products of the tillable fields. It is a crop whose value is measured in its ability to promote human happiness, rather than in its content of food nutrients, for what would Christmas be without a Christmas tree? New England's shipments this year are estimated to be in the neighborhood of 6,500,000 trees, some 500,000 less than the number marketed last year....This business of providing Christmas trees has become a sizable one in New England, and gives evidence of assuming more business-like proportions as time goes on. This year, for the first time, trees are being marketed cooperatively by a group of farmers in New Hampshire, whose interesting story is told elsewhere in this issue. The trees bear a tag on which is printed an appropriate message which gives them an individuality not heretofore possessed. It is possible that next year this same group of farmers will try marketing the desirable tops of fir trees that now are wasted in lumbering operations. Perhaps this cooperative marketing will be the means of avoiding the annual disappointment that some farmers experience when they fail to receive payment for the trees they have sold through individual channels."

Farming in  
the Movies

Dorothy G. Seaman writes of "Farming Practices in the Movies" in The Du Pont Magazine for December. She says in part: "Would you believe that almost twenty-nine million people in the United States are engaged in agricultural pursuits, or, in other words, more than eleven per cent of the people of this country are farmers? With such a group



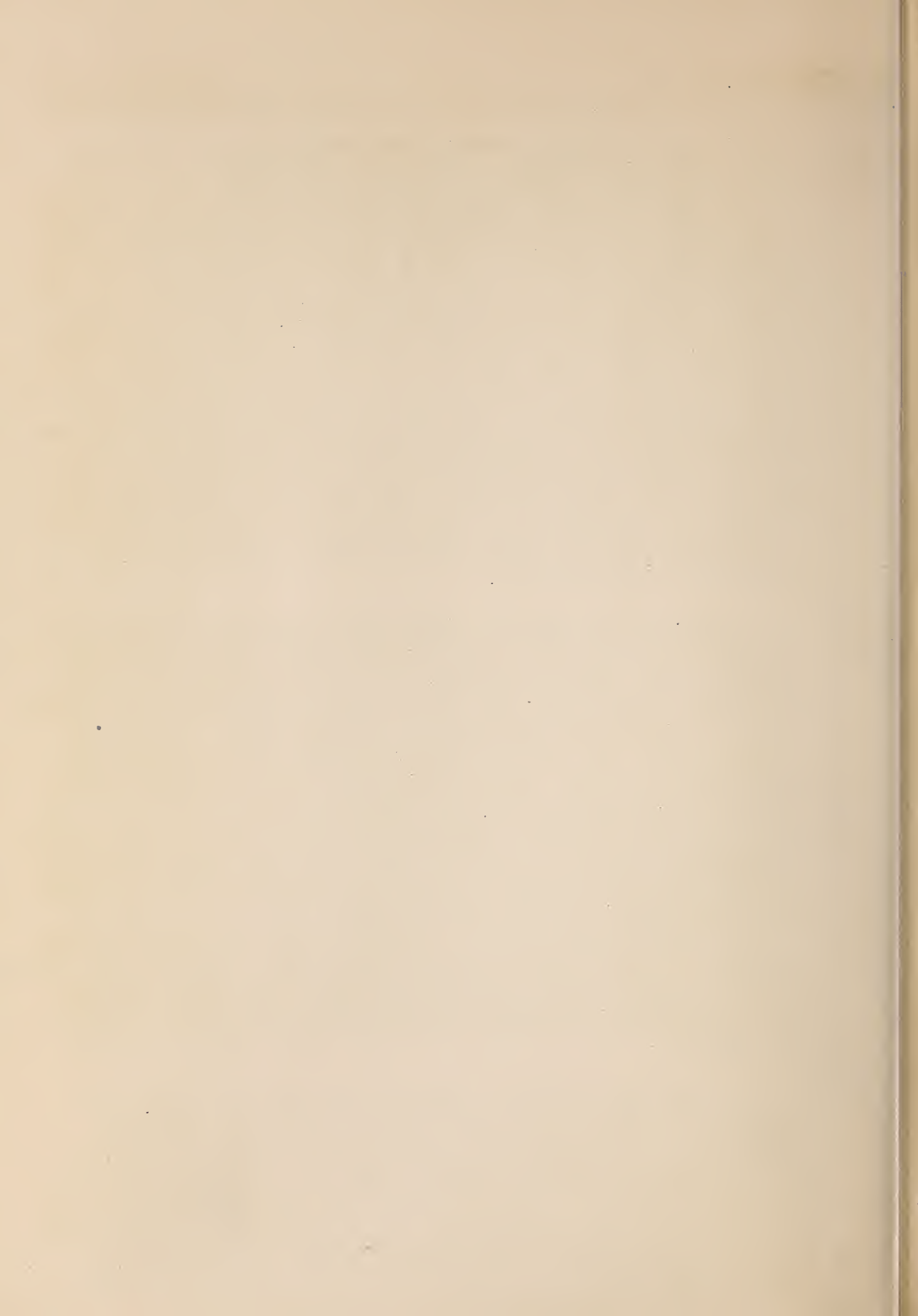
exercising this means of earning their livelihood, is it any wonder that business is catering to this trade? With dynamite, one of its principal products, capable of playing a vital part in the development of the farm, the du Pont Company was quick to recognize this potential rural business, and the establishment of a special agricultural extension section was the result. Books, pamphlets, posters, bulletins and advertisements broadcast to rural communities the message of the economy and the efficiency of du Pont explosives. The development of a new type of dynamite especially adapted for blasting stumps and boulders made new and dramatic exploitation desirable. A motion picture seemed the logical presentation, and thus came into being 'The Legacy,' the first of a series of films devoted to modern agricultural practices. It tells, in story form, how 'the legacy,' a run-down farm, was turned into a paying proposition. From the start, the popularity of the film seemed assured and reports indicate that during the past year it has had 567 showings to 71,219 people--a neat little record of more than one and a half showings each day of the year to 125 people each time! Now comes the release of the second of the series--'Green Valley'--also a story, but this time dealing with the use of dynamite to clean out an old ditch and thus vitally affect the lives and fortunes of the inhabitants of Green Valley..."

Giannini  
Research  
Founda-  
tion

C. F. A. Mann says in Canning Age for November: "Nothing since the establishment of the National Canners' Association Research Laboratories is so important to packers of the United States, as the inauguration of the Giannini Foundation for Agricultural Economics at the University of California. The first work of the foundation, the limitation of the California peach pack to 13,000,000 cases, has been completed. A brilliant staff of research workers has been assembled and is now at work on such important problems as that of the dried fruit--canned fruit industry. Apricots and peaches, canned and dried, will go under the statistical microscope so that the big three California packers who pack both canned and dried products will be able to show proper trends and know how much to pack of each. They will further learn how to follow the gradual switching over of the consuming market from dried fruits to canned. This will interest other packers such as those of raisins and grapes, who find dehydrated fruits and vegetables clogging up their possible sales outlets. Another project is the study of overproduction of milk in the Los Angeles County area, to find out why, with 2,000,000 consumers, milk producers lose money. The fourth important work is a survey of the canned fruit and dried fruit market in the Far East, where a group of workers visited half a dozen Asiatic countries this summer."

Soil Erosion

"The bare hillsides of Palestine show what soil erosion can do to fertile lands. Losses from erosion in the United States are estimated at 1,500,000 tons of soil-material yearly. Grass and forests are the best preventive of land wastage. Experiments carried on by the Missouri Experiment Station show that the average yearly loss from soil erosion is 17 tons per acre on land planted to corn, and only one-quarter of a ton on grass-lands. On the strength of this experiment, it is urged that marginal lands, which intensify the problem of agricultural overproduction, be reserved for forests and grass-land ranges." (Barron's, Dec. 15.)





### Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

#### Farm Products

Dec. 15.--Livestock prices: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers; steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$9 to \$13.50; cows, good and choice \$5 to \$7.25; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$8.50 to \$12.50; vealers, good and choice \$7.50 to \$10; feeder and stocker cattle; steers, good and choice \$7 to \$9; heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$7.75 to \$8.05; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$8.10 to \$8.25; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$7.75 to \$8.25 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$7.50 to \$8.50; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$5.50 to \$7.50.

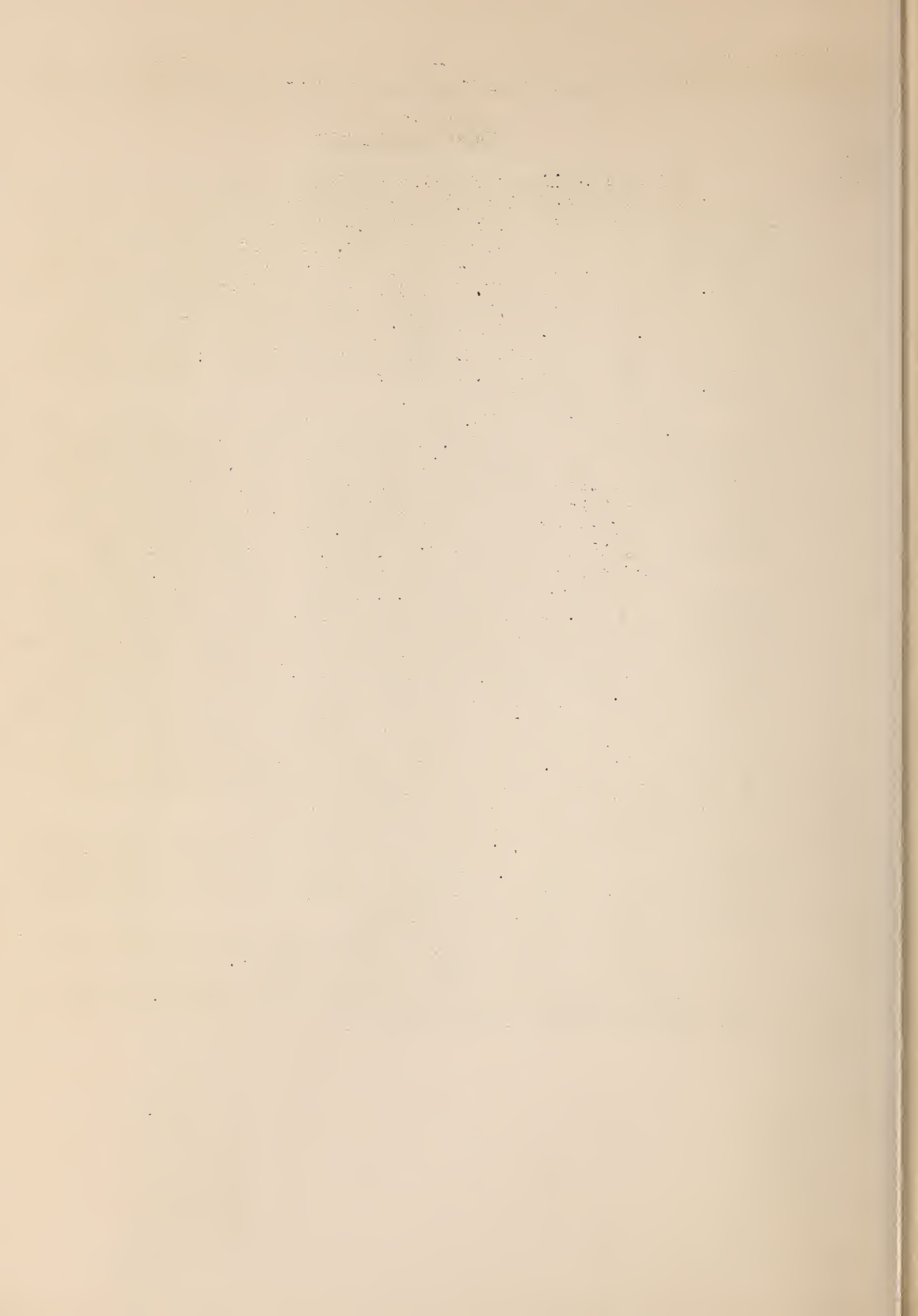
Grain prices: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis 76 to 79¢; St. Louis 82 to 83¢; No.2 hard winter Chicago 78½ to 78¾¢; Kansas City 70 to 70½¢; No.3 mixed corn Chicago 69½ to 69¾¢; Minneapolis 61½ to 63½¢; Kansas City 62 to 64¢; No.3 yellow corn Chicago 69½ to 70½¢; Minneapolis 64½ to 67½¢; St. Louis 69 to 70¢; Kansas City 66 to 67½¢; No.3 white oats Chicago 33½¢; Minneapolis 29 3/8 to 30 3/8¢; St. Louis 34½¢; Kansas City 34½¢.

Maine sacked Green Mountain potatoes ranged \$1.75-\$2 per 100 pounds in city markets; \$1.30 f.o.b. Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites \$1.35-\$1.45 carlot sales in Chicago; \$1.15-\$1.20 f.o.b. Waupaca. New York and midwestern sacked yellow onions \$1.15-\$1.50 per 100 pounds in eastern cities; 90¢-\$1 f.o.b. Rochester. New York Danish type cabbage \$20-\$23 bulk per ton in terminal markets; \$12-\$16 f.o.b. Rochester. Florida and South Carolina Pointed type \$1.75-\$2.25 per 1½ bushel hamper in city markets. Delaware and Maryland yellow sweet potatoes \$1.40-\$2 per bushel hamper in eastern cities. Tennessee Nancy Halls \$1-\$1.35 in the Middle West. New York McIntosh apples \$1.75; Rhode Island Greenings \$1.25-\$1.50; Northwestern Greenings \$1.25-\$1.37½ per bushel basket in New York City.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets declined 18 points to 2.58¢ per lb. On the same day one year ago the price stood at 16.36¢. New December future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 15 points to 9.30¢, and on the New Orleans Exchange declined 15 points to 9.30¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 31¼¢; 91 score, 30½¢; 90 score, 29½¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 17½¢ to 20¢; Single Daisies, 17½¢ to 18¢; Young Americas, 18¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)



# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. XXXIX, No. 66

Section 1

December 17, 1930

## RELIEF LEGISLATION

The press to-day says: "Both ends of the Capitol moved yesterday to force Republicans in the House to immediate action on pending relief measures and to cause the administration to disclose all its information and its exact intentions concerning the unemployment situation. These moves followed a communication to the Senate by President Hoover, in response to the two-week-old Shipstead resolution. The President stated he had no information from Arthur Woods, chairman of the Emergency Commission on Unemployment, that would be of value to the Senate.

"With Republican House leaders seemingly disposed to delay action on the drought-relief bill, Representative John N. Garner, Democratic leader, served notice yesterday that unless opportunity was given to pass on the bill there would be no adjournment for the Christmas holidays. At the same time Senator Watson, Republican Senate leader, reported a similar intention on his part and said Senator Robinson, Democratic leader, agreed with him. This determination, Senator Watson said, extended also to the so-called emergency relief bill for public works, with its appropriation of over \$100,000,000. Senator Watson said he had planned adjournment from December 20 to January 5, but he would not offer his resolution until he was assured the relief bill would pass before Christmas....."

Senator Robinson of Arkansas yesterday introduced a bill providing \$3,500,000 for county agriculture extension service in drought-stricken areas. (Press, Dec. 17.)

## FEDERAL EMPLOYEE SALARIES

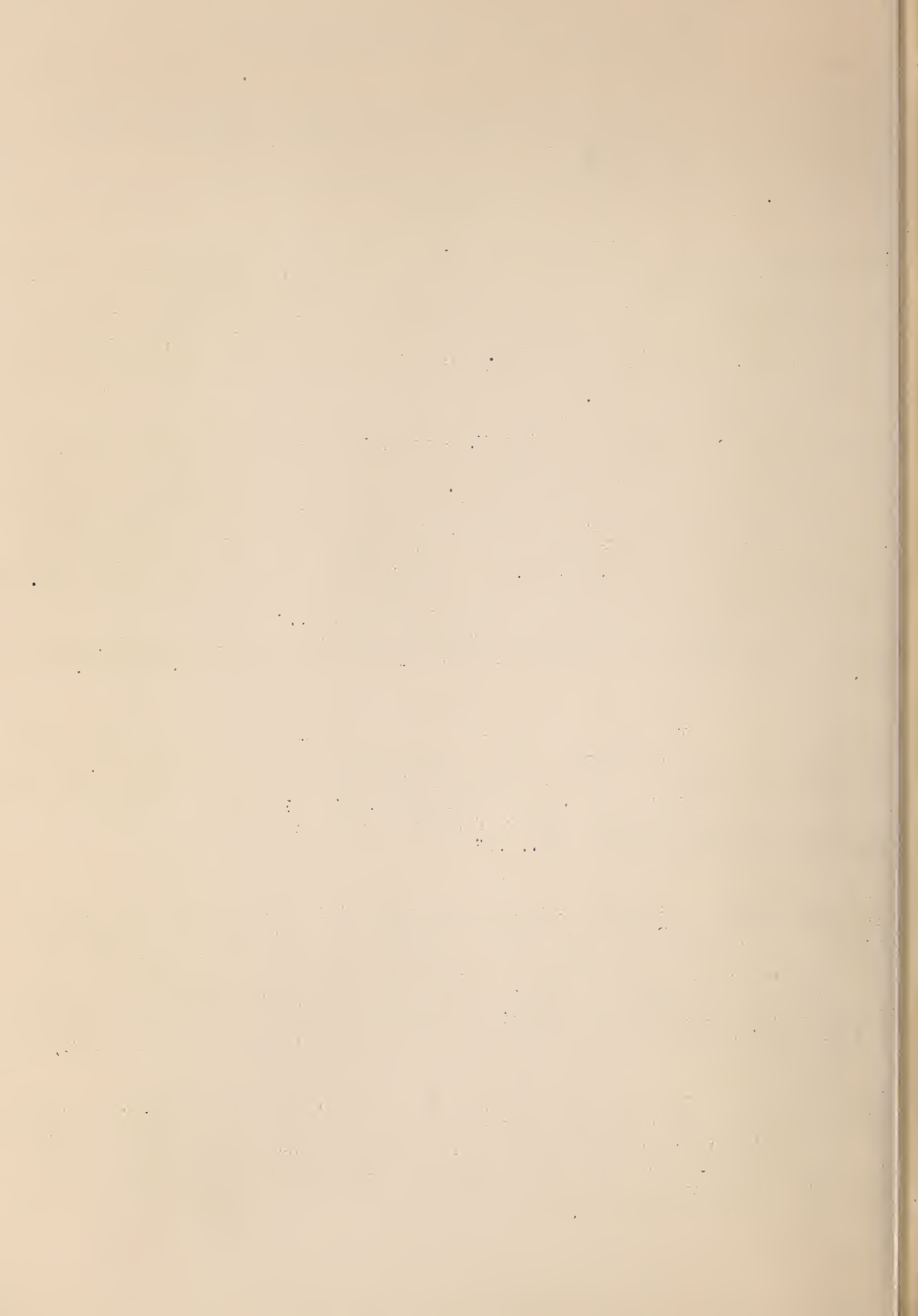
Federal employees will get the salary increases recommended by the President and the Budget Bureau for the next fiscal year, survey of the congressional situation indicated yesterday, according to the press to-day. The report says: "The House appropriations committee reported the annual Agriculture Department appropriations bill to the House with the Wood amendment deleted....."

## BROOKHART SEEKS WIDOWS' PENSIONS

Widows of pensioners under the civil service retirement act would be brought within the benefits of the law under provisions of a bill introduced in the Senate yesterday by Senator Brookhart of Iowa. The Brookhart measure was proposed as an amendment to the civil service retirement law and was brief and to the point. Under its provisions widows of annuitants included in the retirement law would receive three-fourths of the pensions received by their husbands at the time of their death. (Press, Dec. 17.)

## FOOD PRICE INQUIRY

Representatives of Washington bakers are expected to appear to-day before the Senate District committee in the course of the committee's consideration of the Capper food investigation resolution, according to the press. The Capper resolution was originally intended to cover only bread prices, but was expanded by the Senator before he introduced it to include the prices of all foodstuffs.





## Section 2

African  
Wild-Life  
Conserva-  
tion

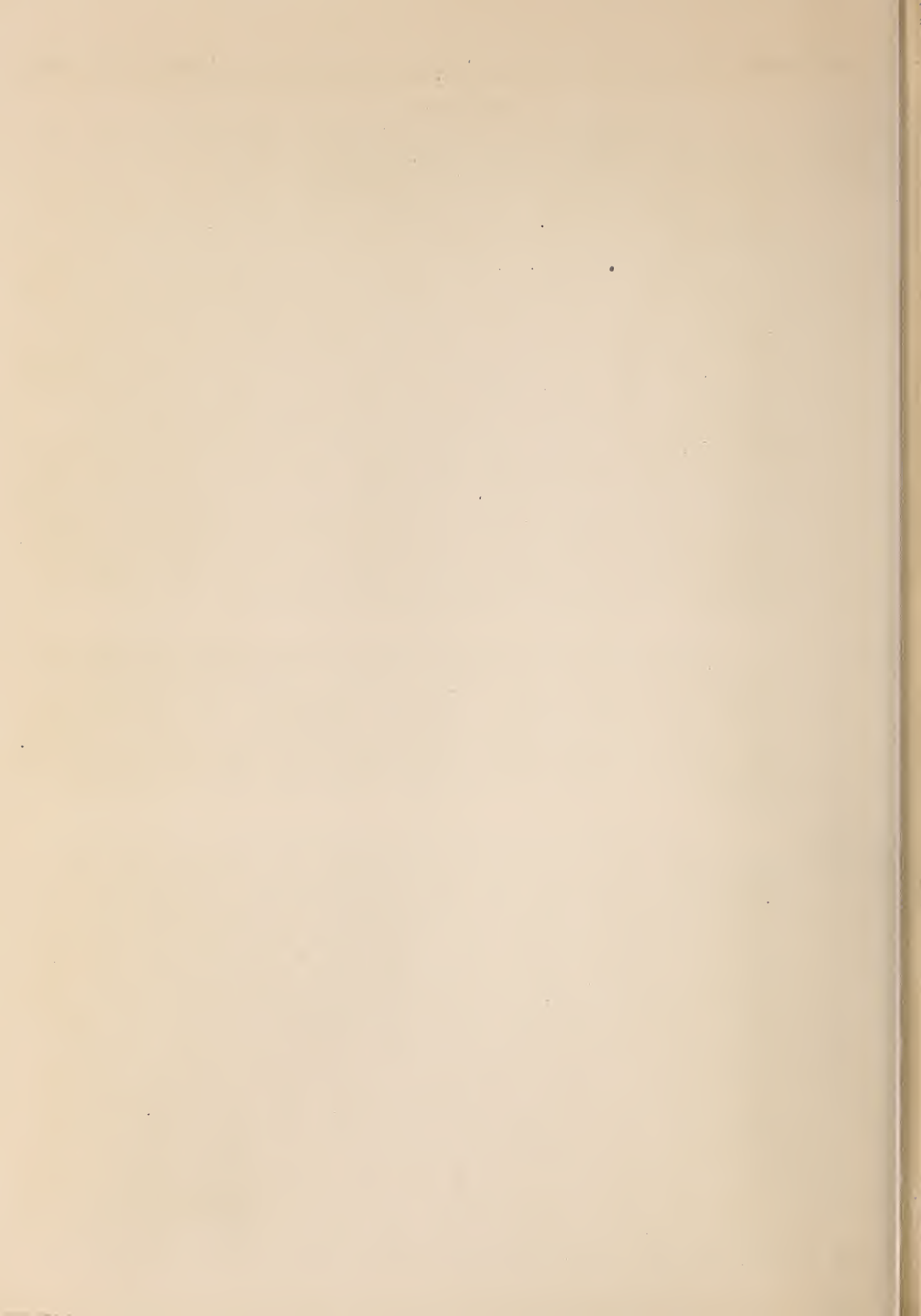
An editorial in The New York Times for December 14 says: "The Parc National Albert for the conservation of animal and bird life in Africa was necessary to prevent extermination of the fauna of a continent which was supposed to be so prolific that protection seemed to be only a sentimental fad. Yet in 1925 no less than 65,000 zebras were slaughtered near the town of Eldoret, East Africa, for their skins, sold for 5 shillings apiece.....The inspiration of establishing a sanctuary in Africa could probably not be claimed by any individual; but there is no doubt that one of the prime movers was the American naturalist, Carl E. Akeley. His early concern for the preservation of the fauna of Africa had perhaps more to do with the gorilla than with any other animal.....The idea of a biological survey station for scientists had also occurred to him. On his return from Africa he sought and obtained the cooperation of Dr. John C. Merriam of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, who took up the matter with the then Belgian Ambassador, Baron de Cartier. About two years later King Albert of Belgium created by royal decree the Parc National Albert. Americans may properly take pleasure in Baron de Cartier's statement to Doctor Merriam that 'the King and his officials have studied the great American reservations and national parks and have sought the advice of eminent American scientists.' Belgian Congo, as the Ambassador pointed out, was the last refuge of many rare species of African fauna. The example there set up will be followed, it is hoped, in other parts of the world."

## Canada

"Canada has a national income of \$5,726,000,000 and ranks next to the United States in per-capita income. Though her population is barely 10,000,000, she has a larger national income than any European country except Great Britain, Germany, and France. Her per-capita income is five times as large as Italy's and  $6\frac{3}{4}$  times as large as Japan's. That explains in part Canada's importance in international trade and her ranking as the largest foreign buyer of American goods." (Barron's, Dec.15.)

Food Dis-  
tribution

An editorial in The Davenport (Iowa) Democrat for December 11 says: "From time to time in the past years, the prediction has been made in this column that farm land, and especially Iowa farm land, was bound to return to its former values, and hold them, because there is only so much land suitable for cultivation in the world, while the population-- the mouths to be fed-- is constantly increasing in numbers. That was all right, except for the fact that in recent years our efficiency of production has been increasing much faster than has the population. Thirty years ago, recalls the Minneapolis Journal, an eminent British authority, Sir William Crookes, voiced the fear that by 1930 England and the United States would be snatching competitively at the world's wheat, a volume insufficient for the bread needs of the human race. Sir William was not guessing wildly. He cited an abundance of figures and facts to support his prediction. He made a close estimate of the prospective increase in population-- an estimate that was later upset considerably by the World war, the flu epidemic, and the tendency toward lower birth rates in some of the chief wheat consuming countries. To meet this rise in wheat demand, he estimated 100,000,000 acres as the greatest possible increase in the world area devoted to wheat production. Well, the year of Sir William's predicted wheat famine, 1930, has come



and almost passed. And the problem of the nations to-day is not how to get wheat, but how to dispose of wheat. The reason is obvious. While population has been increasing only 20 per cent, production of bread-stuffs has increased about 40 per cent. That isn't the most gratifying situation possible, but there may be some comfort in the belief that population is due to gain on production sometime. Another element which may improve the situation is more perfect distribution, for there are probably plenty of people who would be glad to eat the surplus grains if they were in their flour and meal bins."

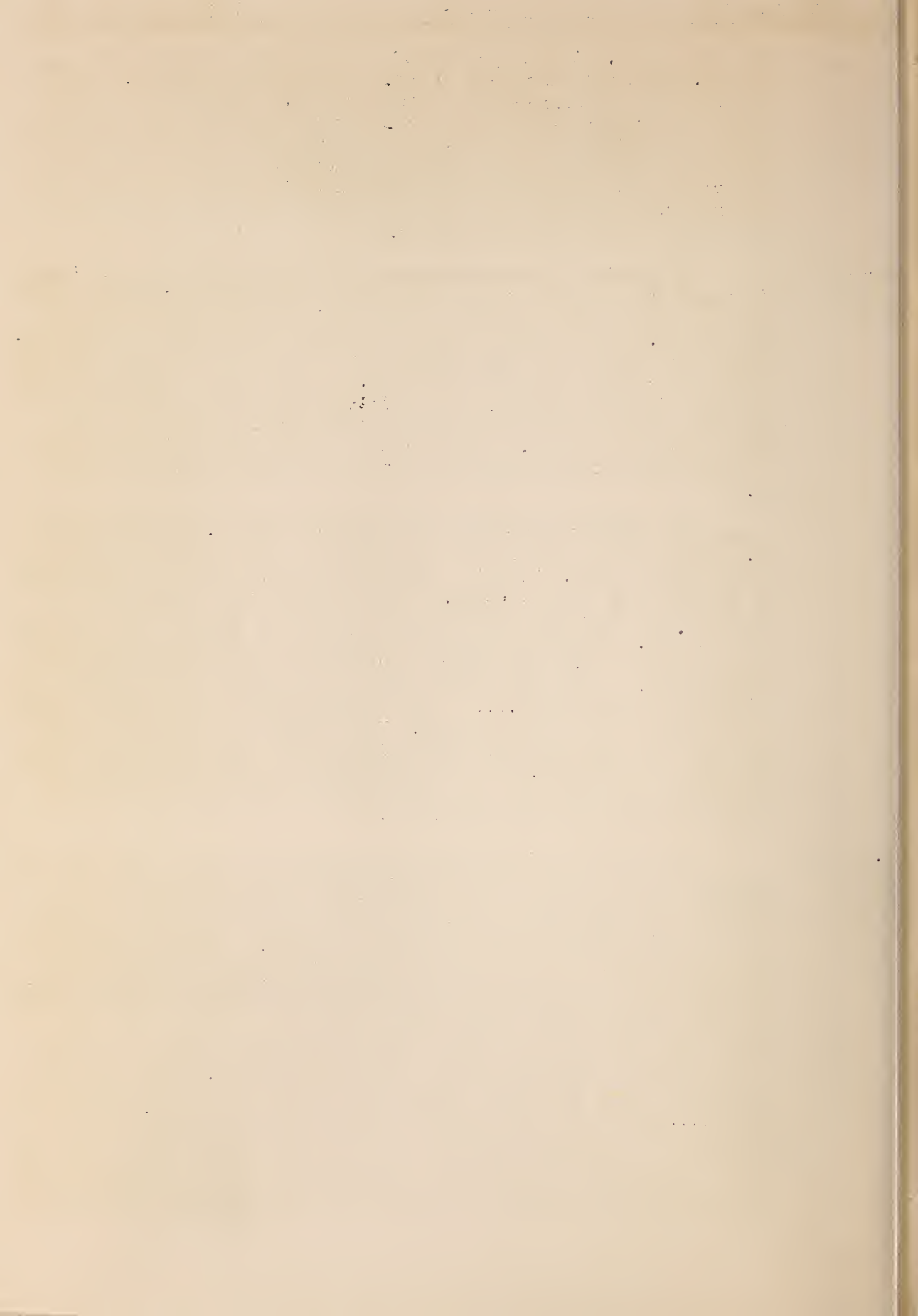
International  
Trade

An editorial in The Washington Post for December 16 says: "Export trade for the entire world will show a decrease of approximately 8 per cent during 1930, according to an analysis by the National Foreign Trade Council. The council figures the trade of 101 nations at \$22,500,000,000 as compared with \$24,427,000,000 in 1929, both figures being reduced to the common index of 1913 prices. Only a few countries, including France, Russia, Roumania, and the Irish Free State, show actual gains for 1930. British exports fell off 10 per cent and those of the United States 15 per cent. On the basis of value the decline appears to be considerably larger because of the fall in prices during the last year.

The relative position of the United States in the field of international trade, is, however, much stronger than these figures indicate. Europe as a whole is not exporting as large a volume of goods as it did before the war. Even in 1929, when exports were at their height, the pre-war peak was not reached. On the other hand, exports of the United States this year will be about 35 per cent greater than they were before the war. American exports of machinery, electrical goods, tractors, chemical goods, and similar necessities held up well in spite of the depression. Items which are largely responsible for the decline are automobiles and raw cotton.....The demoralization of the cotton market is not wholly due to the depression. New sources of supply are being developed in other countries, and the American cotton exporter is faced with unusual competition. It is interesting to note that imports into the United States for the first ten months of this year have declined proportionately less than exports....."

Livestock  
Show Impressions

An editorial in The Farmer for December 13 says: "One thing has impressed every visitor at the International Livestock Exposition at Chicago, last week, and that was the inspiration gained from the army of farm boys and girls who are coming up to the job of building the agriculture of the future-- the hope of rural America. Fifteen hundred of these youngsters-- the pick of more than eight hundred thousand other youngsters at home who were not as fortunate in winning a trip to Chicago-- made their presence known on all occasions. Some of them were successful exhibitors in the open classes just as one of them last year seized the grand champion honors. These youngsters coming on are going to set a new pace for agriculture in the future and they will be fully qualified to meet any future difficulties in the field of livestock production.....After five days spend in attending one continuous round of meetings, it is rather a difficult task to sort out the high lights that might be of particular interest to our readers. The one thing that left the most permanent impression was that nearly all of our important farm questions are being carefully studied in an organized way. If thought-





ful study is productive of results, we are going to make progress in building a sounder foundation for the agriculture of the future. The better part of two days was turned over to the meeting of the American Agricultural Editors' Association. The discussions centered around four important themes-- public and private ownership of utilities, the Federal Farm Board and its program, the world nitrogen situation, and the Federal Farm Loan Board and the Land Banks....."

Press  
Progress

An editorial in The Daily Pantagraph (Bloomington, Ill.) for December 13 says: "It was no new or startling doctrine which Frank D. Noyes, president of the Associated Press enunciated before the national convention of insurance men the other day. He simply emphasized what had been said before, and which every newspaperman knows to be the truth. Nevertheless, these simple statements need to be reiterated, because a certain portion of the public persists in entertaining incorrect notions along these lines. Mr. Noyes said that the information regarding what is going on in the world, on which most citizens must base their beliefs and actions, comes to them in the overwhelming majority of cases from the columns of their newspapers. A paper may be Democratic, Republican or Progressive in its politics, but its obligation is to give its readers a balanced picture of the world's happenings in its news columns, and reserve all its missionary efforts in a political way to its editorial column. Newspapers of to-day, Mr. Noyes said, are vastly better than 50 years ago, in spite of some idea that the opposite is true. The Associated Press exists to-day because of the determination of its members that no privately-owned concern should have control of its principal news service, which is the lifeblood of the newspapers. 'Granted,' Mr. Noyes continued, 'that an informed Nation is a secured Nation, then it is of the utmost importance that the information supplied the Nation be such as results in a truthfully informed people, and I assert that from The Associated Press, The Canadian Press, and from the competing organizations the people of this continent are receiving through the newspapers a volume of accurate information regarding the happenings, the conditions, the joys, the sorrows, of this old world of ours such as the world elsewhere knows nothing of and our own people never had before.'....."

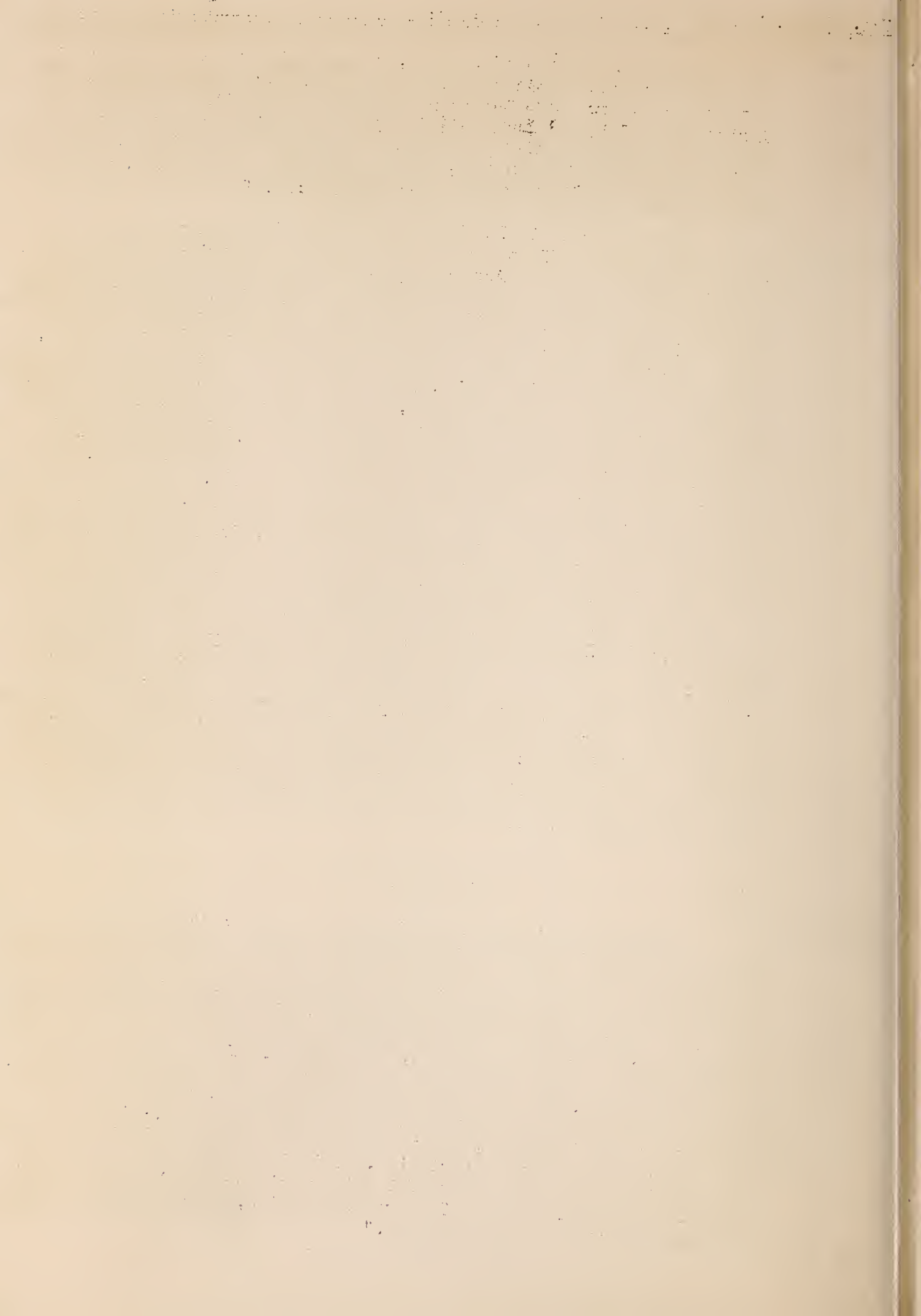
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### Section 3

Department of  
Agriculture

Pennsylvania Farmer for December 13 says: "With November expired the special freight rates granted by the railroads on feeds shipped into drought areas and on livestock shipped out of such areas. It is significant that the movement of feeds was much greater than the movement of livestock under this arrangement. The totals are not yet available, but a few weeks ago the railroads expected that shipments under drought permits would exceed 60,000 carloads. When the final figures are available we shall see that the railroads have contributed a substantial amount, and more than any other industry, to the relief of regions and individuals suffering by prolonged drought. Let this be remembered to their credit, likewise the fact that they did it at a time when their revenues were shrinking. This is an instance of practical cooperation brought about by official agencies-- the Department of Agriculture and the Interstate Commerce Commission, which should have credit for prompt action in an emergency."

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# Section 4 MARKET QUOTATIONS

## Farm

## Products

Dec. 16! --Livestock prices: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers: Steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$9-13.50; Cows, good and choice \$5-7.25; Vealers, good and choice \$7.50-10; Feeder and stocker cattle: Steers, good and choice \$7-9; Heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$7.65-7.90; Light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$7.90-8.10; Slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$7.65-8.10; (Soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations); Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$7.50-8.65; Feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$5.50-7.50.

Grain prices: No. 1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis  $75\frac{1}{2}$ - $78\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No. 2 red winter St. Louis 83-84¢; No. 2 hard winter Kansas City 70-71¢; No. 3 mixed corn Chicago 68-69¢; Minneapolis 59-61¢; Kansas City 61-63¢; No. 3 yellow corn Chicago  $68\frac{1}{2}$ -70¢; Minneapolis 62-65¢; St. Louis 68-70¢; Kansas City  $64\frac{1}{2}$ -66¢; No. 3 white oats Chicago  $32\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Minneapolis  $27\frac{3}{4}$ - $28\frac{3}{4}$ ¢.

Maine sacked Green Mountain potatoes \$1.75-2.05 per 100 lbs. in eastern cities; mostly \$1.30 f.o.b. Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites \$1.35-1.45 carlot sales in Chicago: few \$1.20-1.25 f.o.b. Wau-paca. New York and Midwestern sacked yellow varieties of onions brought \$1-1.40 per 100 lbs. in consuming centers: 90¢-\$1 f.o.b. Rochester. New York Danish type cabbage \$20-25 bulk per ton in terminal markets: \$14-15 f.o.b. Rochester. Florida Pointed type \$1.75-2.25 per  $1\frac{1}{2}$ -bushel hamper in the East. Delaware and Maryland yellow sweet potatoes \$1.40-1.60 per bushel hamper in eastern cities. Tennessee Nancy Halls \$1-1.40 in the Middle West.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets advanced 14 points to 3.72¢ per lb. On the same day one year ago the price was 3.64¢. New December future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 15 points to 9.45¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange advanced 14 points to 9.44¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 90 score, 31¢; 91 score,  $30\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; 90 score,  $29\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

Wholesale prices of No. 1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats,  $17\frac{1}{2}$ -20¢; Single Daisies,  $17\frac{1}{4}$ - $17\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Young Americans  $17\frac{3}{4}$  18¢. (Prep. by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)





# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XXXIX, No. 67

Section 1

December 18, 1930.

## RELIEF BILLS

The press to-day says: "President Hoover yesterday took a hand in the situation confronting emergency relief legislation and, as a result, administration leaders in both houses of Congress reached a decision to obtain final action on the \$116,000,000 public works bill and the drought relief measure before adjoining for the holidays...."

"General debate on the drought loan resolution was completed by the House yesterday and the reading of the bill for amendments began....The drought relief resolution before the House was amended to substitute for the Senate provisions the language of the original House measure, with the added provision that the money can be used for seed, food and fertilizer loans and 'for such other purposes of crop production as may be prescribed by the Secretary of Agriculture.'..."

## WORLD COURT LEGISLATION

The Senate committee on foreign relations yesterday voted 10 to 9 to postpone consideration of the World Court protocols until December 1931, according to to-day's press.

## FLOUR PRICES

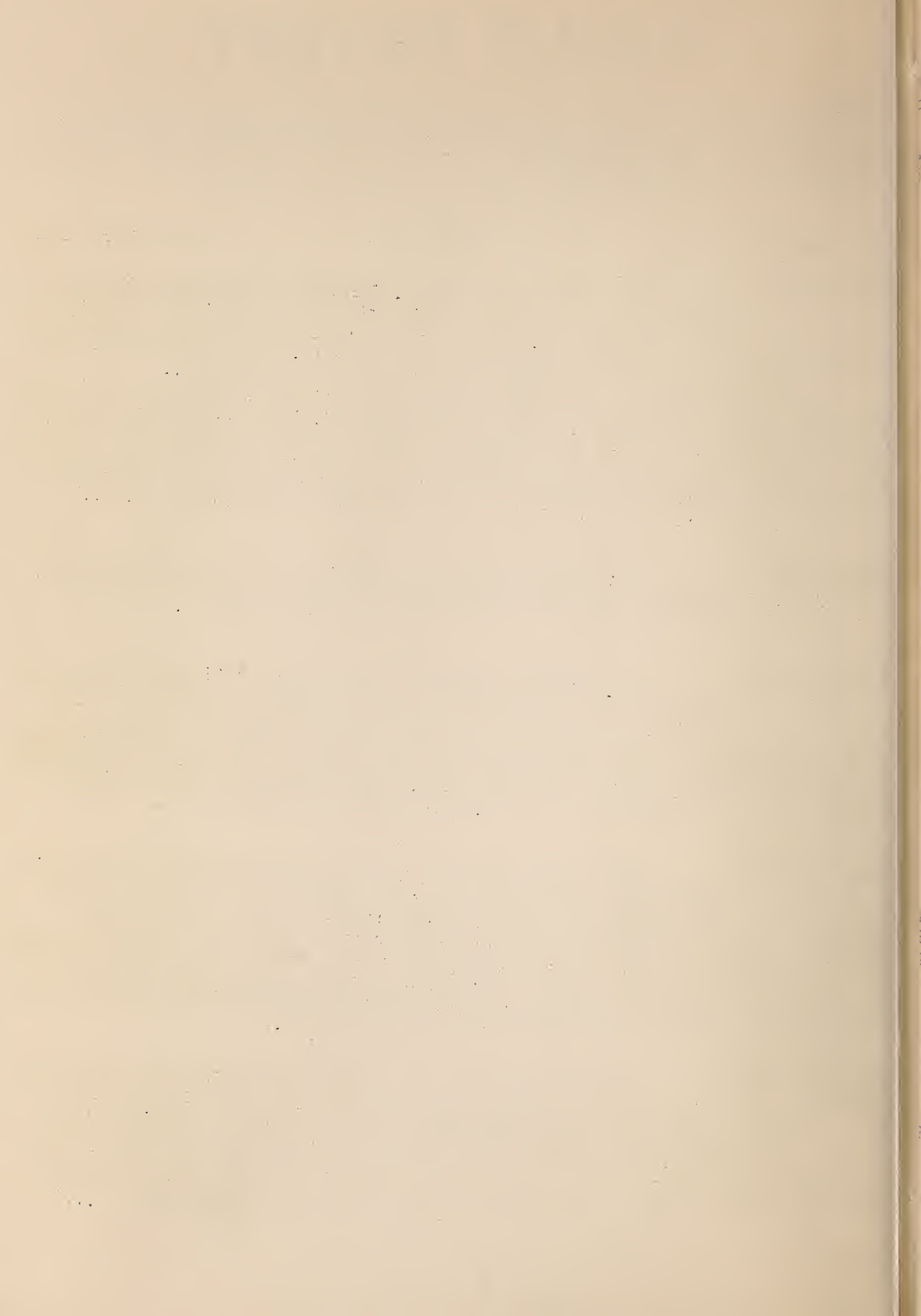
A Minneapolis dispatch to-day says: "Increased competition was credited yesterday with causing an average reduction of 20 cents a barrel in the mill prices of family patent flour in carlots. Some mills, however, reported no change in price. Barrel quotations ranged from \$5.25 to \$5.35. Mill feeds underwent a more drastic drop, due to an increase in the farm feeding of wheat and other grains which ordinarily were diverted to markets and to the reduction of purchasing power among feeders..."

## SUGAR ACCORD

A Brussels dispatch to the press of December 17 says: "The world sugar conference, with the exception of the German delegation, which had left for Berlin, held its final session here December 16. Before breaking up after the failure to agree, the delegations representing the Cuban-American interests, the Java trust, and Hungary, Poland, Belgium and Czechoslovakia signed a provisional accord accepting the terms of Thomas L. Chadbourne's five-year restriction plan provided Germany reconsiders her decision and decides to enter the agreement before January 15..."

## EGYPTIAN SUGAR CONTROL

A Cairo dispatch to-day says: "The Egyptian government will soon institute a sugar regie Henry Naus Bey, Director General of the Egyptian sugar refineries, held a conference yesterday with Abdul Wahab Pasha, Under Secretary of Finance, to fix the details of the plan of organization of this sugar regie. Such a regie consists of absolute control by the government of the sale and price of sugar refined in Egypt, with a prohibitive duty on all imported sugar, whether raw or refined..."



## Section 2

Agricultural  
Shows

An editorial in The Nebraska Farmer for December 13 says: "At this season of the year when livestock, grain and seed shows are engaging the attention of the progressive breeders and producers of these agricultural products, the question undoubtedly arises in the minds of many as to just what is accomplished by them. Obviously considerable time, energy and money are expended in bringing these shows before the public. The livestock show has long been recognized as the place where type is established. Breeders strive to produce the kind of livestock that qualified judges select in the show ring. These judges are men of wide experience and in making their selections take into consideration the performance of the type selected in the feed lot, the ultimate aim of all livestock breeding. It is questionable whether this is true to as great an extent in the case of grain and seed. Too often varieties are exhibited which are not adapted to the particular area in which they are produced. These varieties frequently are awarded premiums because of apparently superior quality and thus have a stamp of approval placed on them which is often misleading. As a result varieties of small grain, corn and other seeds that have nothing to recommend them except good appearance are often accepted and planted with disappointing results as far as yield and adaptability are concerned. The Colorado Pure Seed Show is an outstanding example of a show where only approved standardized and adapted varieties are shown. The type of corn which can be exhibited at this show is definitely determined and only such varieties are awarded premiums. During the show type conferences are held. Breeders, exhibitors, county agents and specialists from the agricultural college all have a voice in these conferences. The types chosen are unanimously agreed upon by all these representatives and are typical of and adaptable to the area in which they are produced. Growers of these grains strive to produce the kind that will most closely conform to the type selected. This procedure has had a striking effect on the corn produced in Colorado. Probably in no other region has more progress been made in establishing a type of corn which has quality, yield and maturity combined. What has been accomplished can be attributed to the definite policy of corn improvement adopted in that State."

Apartment  
House  
Groceries

Basements converted into apartment groceries in some large apartment buildings in cities are offering retail grocers new opportunities. The basement grocer does a credit business, but it's a new kind of credit. Patrons charge their grocery bills, and at the end of the month their food account is added to their rental bills. The grocer makes no collections and he is always sure of getting his collections in due time. Some basement grocers confine their trade exclusively to the building. Others accept a small outside business but make little effort to encourage it. (New Era in Food Distribution, Dec.)

## Farm Surveys

An editorial in The Southern Planter for December 15 says: "The Southern Planter is informed that a group of people with good intentions will attempt to have a bill passed at this Congress appropriating funds for the purpose of making a nation-wide survey of agricultural conditions. From such a survey deliver us. For ten long years the farmer has been passing through a serious depression. He has been surveyed and resurveyed. If it is not known now what his

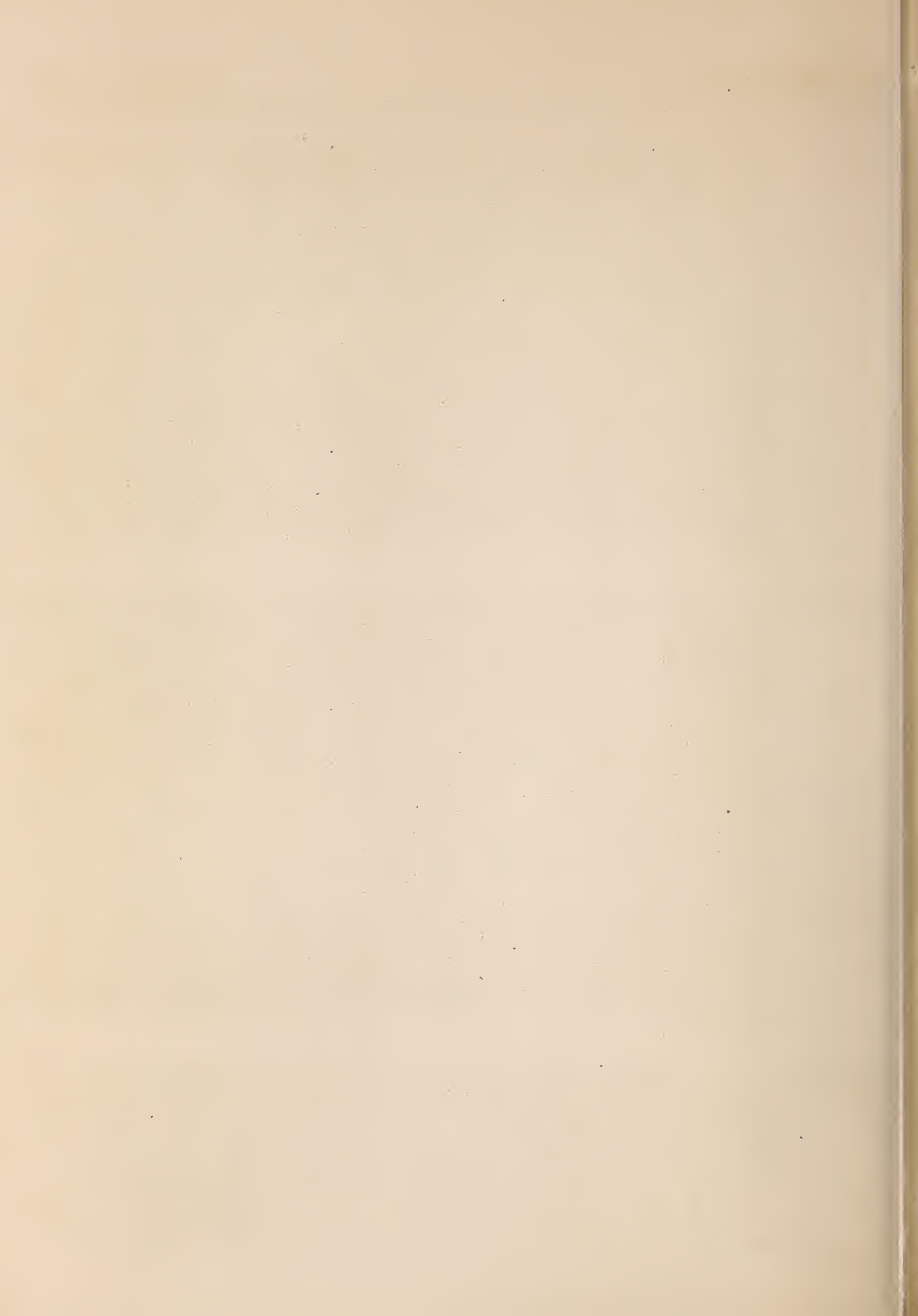




trouble is, another survey will not help. The farmer does not desire to be told again what his trouble is. What he wants is the cure for the malady. Give the farmer almost anything except a survey. The farmer needs national legislation favorable to him so that he will be placed on the same basis with the railroads, finance, industry and labor--all of which are receiving governmental assistance....The use of better methods by individual farmers will go a long way in solving the agricultural problem. Raise the salaries of the county and home agents, place them in every agricultural county, and pay their salaries entirely from State and Federal sources. They are public servants that have been tried and their worth fully proved. Give more money for research work in agriculture. A land utilization policy is needed. Taxes should be so arranged that farmers may plant their lands to forests without being burdened with taxes. Lower the direct property tax paid by farmers and base taxes largely on income. Above all let the States reduce their expenditures. Let the States take stock, rid themselves of the tremendous burdens of extravagance and inefficiency that were put upon them for political purposes. These and other things will help farmers to more nearly secure their just share of the national income. ..."

German Girls            In Germany, where modern farm machinery is prohibitive in cost, Study Farm one sees the farm girls not only as assistant housekeepers but working in groups in the fields, says an article in The New York Times of December 14. For such girls training schools have been established, of which the one at Wusterhausen an der Dosse is a good example. This school is in the province of Brandenburg, not far from Berlin. The school trains girls in various branches of agriculture and housekeeping by providing practical experience in both. An agricultural commission of the Brandenburg province founded the institution in 1908. It has twelve acres of ground. Special attention is given to cooking and baking; the various methods of canning and of storing vegetables and fruit are taught, as well as the preparation of fruit wines, the salting and smoking of various meats and even dining-table service. There are also courses in more general farm work. The girls learn to raise chickens, ducks, turkeys and geese. In the haying season they go to the fields with their wooden rakes, gather the hay and tie it into bundles, later carrying it to the barn. The work changes with the seasons and so in the winter comes the hog-killing and dressing, sausage-making and poultry dressing. Cheeses, of course, are made the year round. Then there is the apiary. The girls at Wusterhausen don their bee-veils and rob the hives.

Rayon Price            A London dispatch December 15 states that leaders of the Stabiliza- world's artificial silk industry have met failure in their attempt to tion stabilize prices and stave off further depression in their trade. The report says: "A conference of leading rayon producers from the United States, England and four continental European nations met in London last week in a struggle to end price fluctuations but adjourned with virtually nothing achieved. The only result of the conference, in fact was a valuable exchange of views and a loophole through which informal talks may be resumed some time later. The prospect of checking the



downward trend of rayon prices is no better, therefore, than before the conference. Those in touch with the British rayon industry fear that prices will remain unstable for many discouraging weeks before a turn for the better occurs...."

World Trade  
Review

An editorial in The Wall Street Journal for December 16 says: "National Foreign Trade Council has put out its story of world trade for the calendar year 1930. It was to be expected that the report would show a decline, but a pleasant surprise is contained in the figures which indicate a smaller decrease than might have been expected. Two other surprises are in the figures which show that American manufacturing industry is substantially holding its own in the international field, and that Europe, our best customer, is the steadiest part of the world so far as international trade is concerned. In volume, the total export trade of the world in 1930 will be about 8 per cent less than in 1929. Taking world conditions into consideration, this is not unsatisfactory, and when it is realized that even with this reduction the total will remain 16 per cent higher than in 1925 the figure will look more satisfactory. That trade should hold so close to the total of the two preceding years justifies the belief that while the stream of world trade may be temporarily checked, it will soon flow in full flood again. 'The decreases in the world's export trade this year,' says the Council, 'have been almost entirely in the countries which chiefly produce raw materials. Canada and Japan, second and third to the United States in the amount of foreign trade gained since the war, suffered loss of ten per cent compared with a year ago.' Argentina, Brazil and other Latin-American countries also suffered a similar diminution of exports. But even so, Latin America is selling as much abroad as in 1926, in which year the total was 20 per cent greater than before the war. A genuinely constructive factor is seen in the manufacturing industry, particularly of Europe and the United States. With a few notable exceptions, manufactured goods from the United States and Europe were in about the same volume as in 1929..."

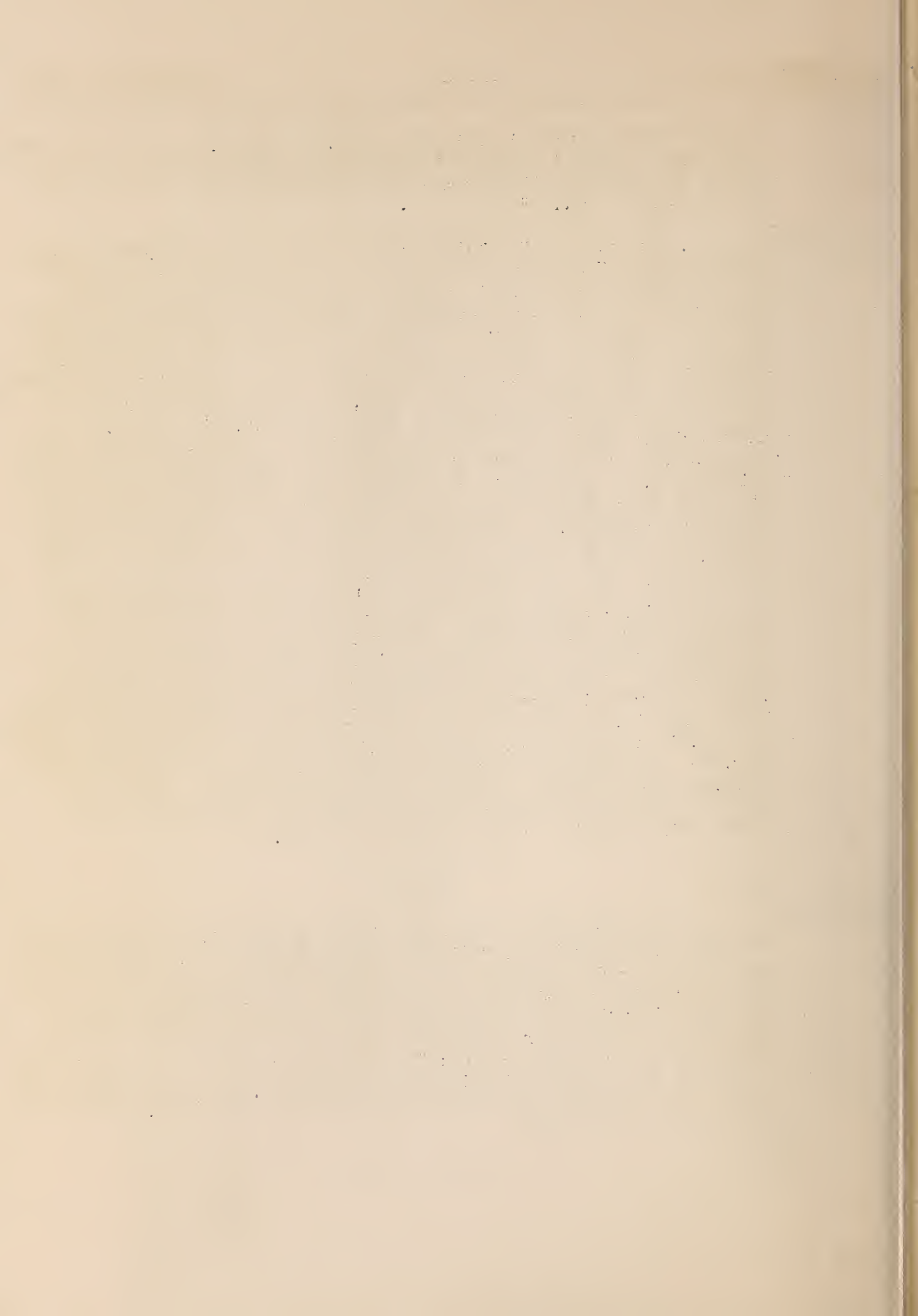
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Section 3

Department of  
Agriculture

In an editorial on the Secretary's Annual Report, Weekly Kansas City Star for December 10 says: "The Annual Report of the Secretary of Agriculture to the President of the United States has just been issued. After reviewing the results of the drought, the production of crops in 1930 and the disparity between farm income and farm expenses, suggestions for betterment are presented." Here follow quotations from the report and the editorial concludes: "A complete review of the scientific regulatory and extension activities of the department is included in the report. It is worthy of study not only by those engaged in agriculture but in other industries."

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# Section 4 MARKET QUOTATIONS

## Farm Products

Dec. 17.--Livestock prices: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers; steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$9 to \$14; cows, good and choice \$5.25 to \$7.25; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$8.50 to \$12.75; vealers, good and choice \$7.50 to \$10; feeder and stocker cattle; steers, good and choice \$7 to \$9; heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$7.65 to \$7.90; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$8 to \$8.10; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$7.65 to \$8.10 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$7.25 to \$8.50; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$5.50 to \$7.50.

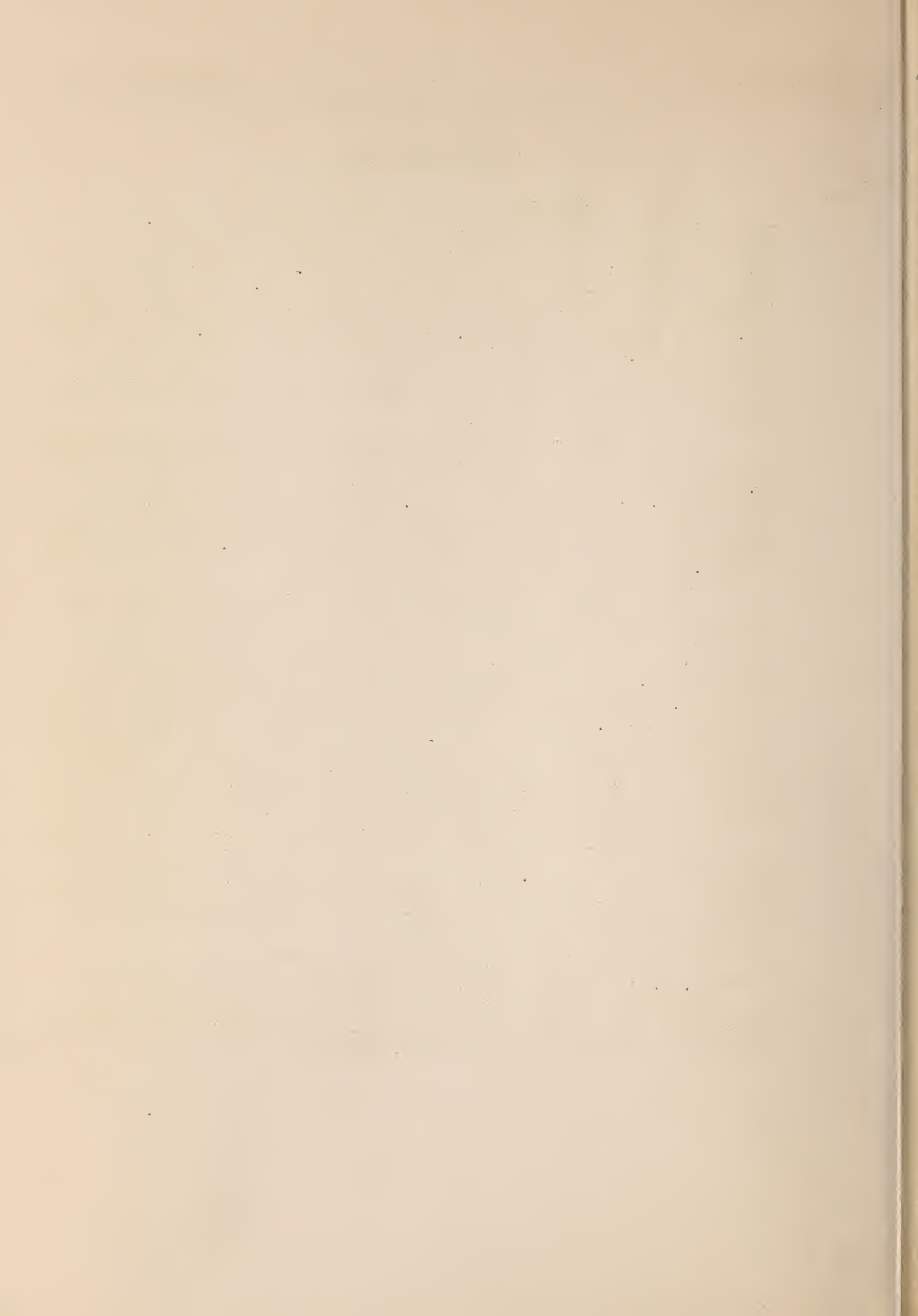
Grain prices: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis  $75\frac{1}{2}$  to  $78\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.2 red winter St. Louis  $82\frac{1}{2}$  to  $83$ ¢; No.2 hard winter Kansas City  $70\frac{1}{2}$  to  $71$ ¢; No.3 mixed corn Chicago  $66\frac{1}{2}$  to  $67\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Minneapolis 59 to  $61$ ¢; Kansas City  $61\frac{1}{2}$  to  $64$ ¢; No.3 yellow corn Chicago  $66\frac{3}{4}$  to  $68$ ¢; Minneapolis 62 to  $65$ ¢; St. Louis 68 to  $69$ ¢; Kansas City 64 to  $66\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.3 white oats Chicago  $31$ ¢; Minneapolis  $28\frac{1}{4}$  to  $29\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; St. Louis  $34$ ¢; Kansas City  $33\frac{1}{2}$  to  $34$ ¢.

Maine sacked Green Mountain potatoes ranged \$1.80-\$2.05 per 100 pounds in eastern cities; \$1.35 f.o.b. Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites \$1.35-\$1.45 carlot sales in Chicago; mostly \$1.20-\$1.25 f.o.b. Waupaca. New York and Midwestern sacked yellow onions \$1-\$1.50 per 100 pounds in consuming centers; 90¢-\$1 f.o.b. Rochester. Eastern Shore Maryland and Delaware yellow sweet potatoes brought \$1.25-\$1.60 per bushel hamper in the East. Tennessee Nancy Halls \$1-\$1.25 in Chicago. New York Danish type cabbage \$20-\$23 bulk per ton in terminal markets; mostly \$15 f.o.b. Rochester. Florida and South Carolina Pointed type \$1.25-\$2 per  $1\frac{1}{2}$ -bushel hamper in the East. New York Rhode Island Greening apples \$1.50 per bushel basket in New York City; McIntosh \$1.25-\$1.75; Baldwins \$1.40 f.o.b. Rochester.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets advanced 36 points to 9.08¢ per lb. On the same day last year the price was 16.52¢. New December future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 33 points to 9.78¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange advanced 38 points to 9.82¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 30¢; 91 score,  $29\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; 90 score,  $28\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats  $17\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to 20¢; Single Daisies,  $17\frac{1}{4}$  to  $17\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Young Americas  $17\frac{3}{4}$  to 18¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.).



# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. XXXIX, No. 68

Section 1

December 19, 1930.

## RELIEF

### LEGISLATION

The press to-day reports: "Enactment of the employment and drought relief program in time for a recess Saturday for the holidays appeared last night to be distinctly possible, after a day in which Congress, as urged by President Hoover, speeded up the wheels of legislation in a most unusual manner.

"The House rejected Senate amendments to the \$60,000,000 drought relief measure by a vote of 225 to 147..., and then passed a measure appropriating \$30,000,000. The bill was sent to the conference committee of House and Senate and soon afterward the conferees agreed to compromise on an authorization for \$45,000,000....

"A slight change in phraseology which would permit the use of money for food in great emergencies, despite the striking of that word from the authorization, was accomplished by changing the phrase saying that the Secretary of Agriculture may, for 'purposes incident to crop production,' allocate this money....

"The Senate amendment to the \$116,000,000 emergency public works bill, which would delete the President's authority to reallocate the funds for various projects, was cut out...."

## FARM BOARD

### FUNDS

The House yesterday voted to give the Federal Farm Board an additional \$150,000,000 of its revolving fund, according to the press to-day. The Senate appropriations committee gave approval to the proposal and sent it to the Senate floor. The report says:

"This appropriation would swell the total given the board thus far to \$400,000,000 and it plans to ask for the remaining \$100,000,000 of the \$500,000,000 authorized for use in the next fiscal year. The fund approved yesterday is for immediate use in stabilization cooperative marketing association loan operations.

"Testifying before the House appropriations committee for the additional funds, Chairman Legge said the board was making some progress in bringing about relief....Mr. Legge recommended that the Government take over the regulation of agricultural commodities exchanges. He advocated that definite authority be given a Government official to draw up their rules."

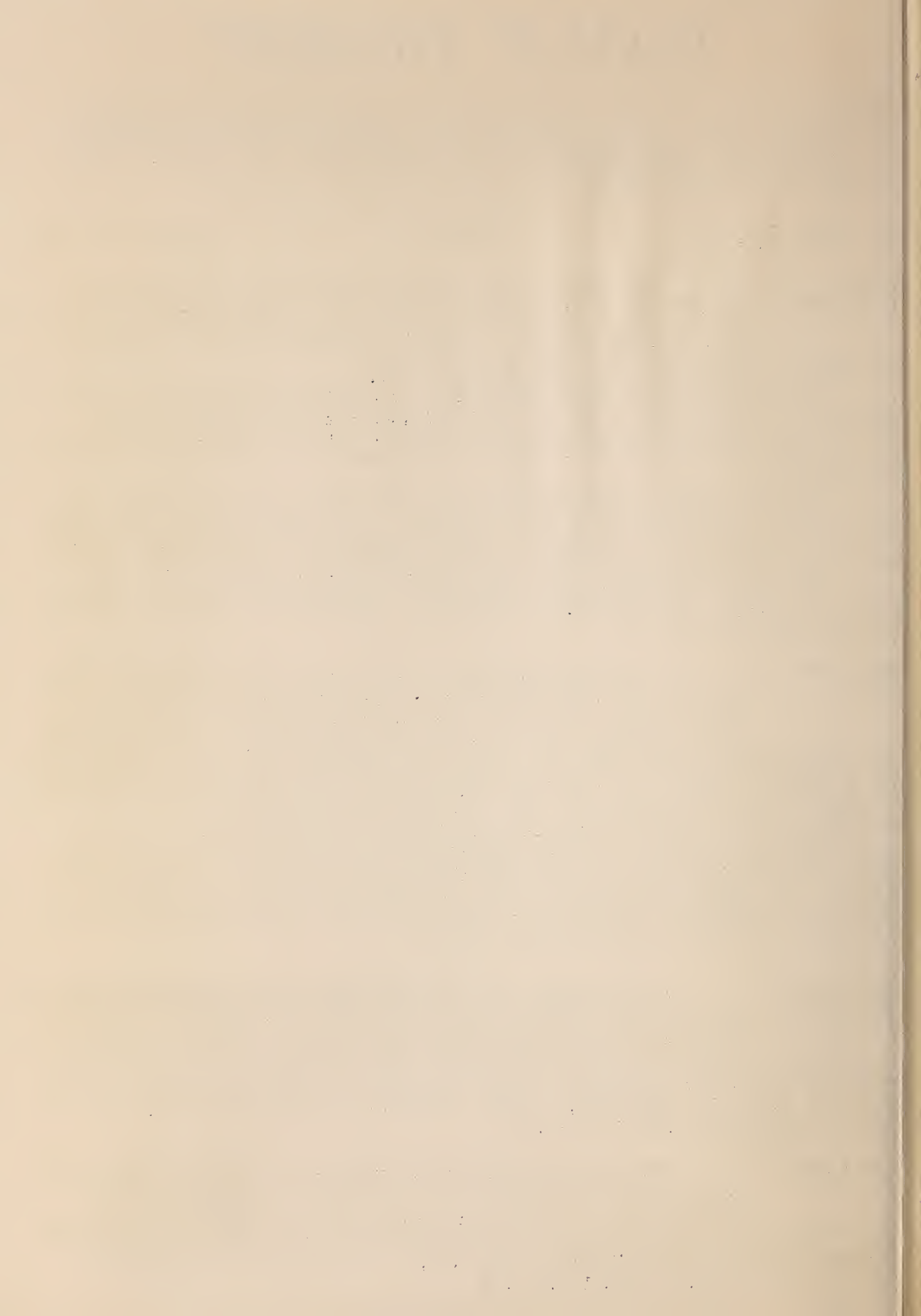
## IMMIGRATION

### LEGISLATION

A horizontal cut of 90 per cent in all immigration based on the national origins method of selection was suggested by Secretaries Stimson and Doak yesterday if Congress intends enacting such legislation to aid employment. The State and Labor Department heads registered their opposition before the Senate immigration committee to the Reed bill to bar all immigration, except relatives of foreign-born American citizens, for two years. (A.P., Dec. 19.)

## HOOVER DAM

The construction of Hoover Dam, of the Boulder Canyon project, with its huge power plant and appurtenant works at Black Canyon on the Colorado River, approached a step closer reality yesterday with the announcement by Secretary Wilbur that bids on the construction contract would be opened on March 4 at 10 a.m., in the offices of the Bureau of Reclamation at Denver. (Press, Dec. 19.)





## Section 2

## Apple

An editorial in American Fruit Grower for December says:

## Marketing

"According to a statement issued early in November by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, the consumption of apples has practically doubled within the past ten or twelve years, largely due to better quality, better grading and packing, and better display of the fruit on sale. This is, of course, encouraging to the producers of apples. But after lengthy investigation into some of the practices connected with retail distribution of apples, the inescapable conclusion is reached that still further increase in consumption could be secured by encouraging a larger purchase unit. The practice of offering apples in units of three pounds has become well-nigh universal, insofar as the city markets are concerned. And regardless of the generally lower wholesale price level prevailing during the present season, the price of twenty-five cents for this unit is very generally maintained. Thus, more general consumption of this fruit, which might be promoted by a lower price to the consumer, is not secured. Three pounds of apples means from seven to nine fruits, an average of eight. If by some means this initial purchase could be enlarged to a dozen, the effect, of course, would be to increase the unit of purchase by fifty per cent. It is not to be expected that such an expedient would have the effect of immediately increasing apple consumption in the same proportion, but the effect would be to noticeably increase the total volume of apple sales..."

## Cornhusking

An editorial in The Nebraska Farmer for December 13 says:

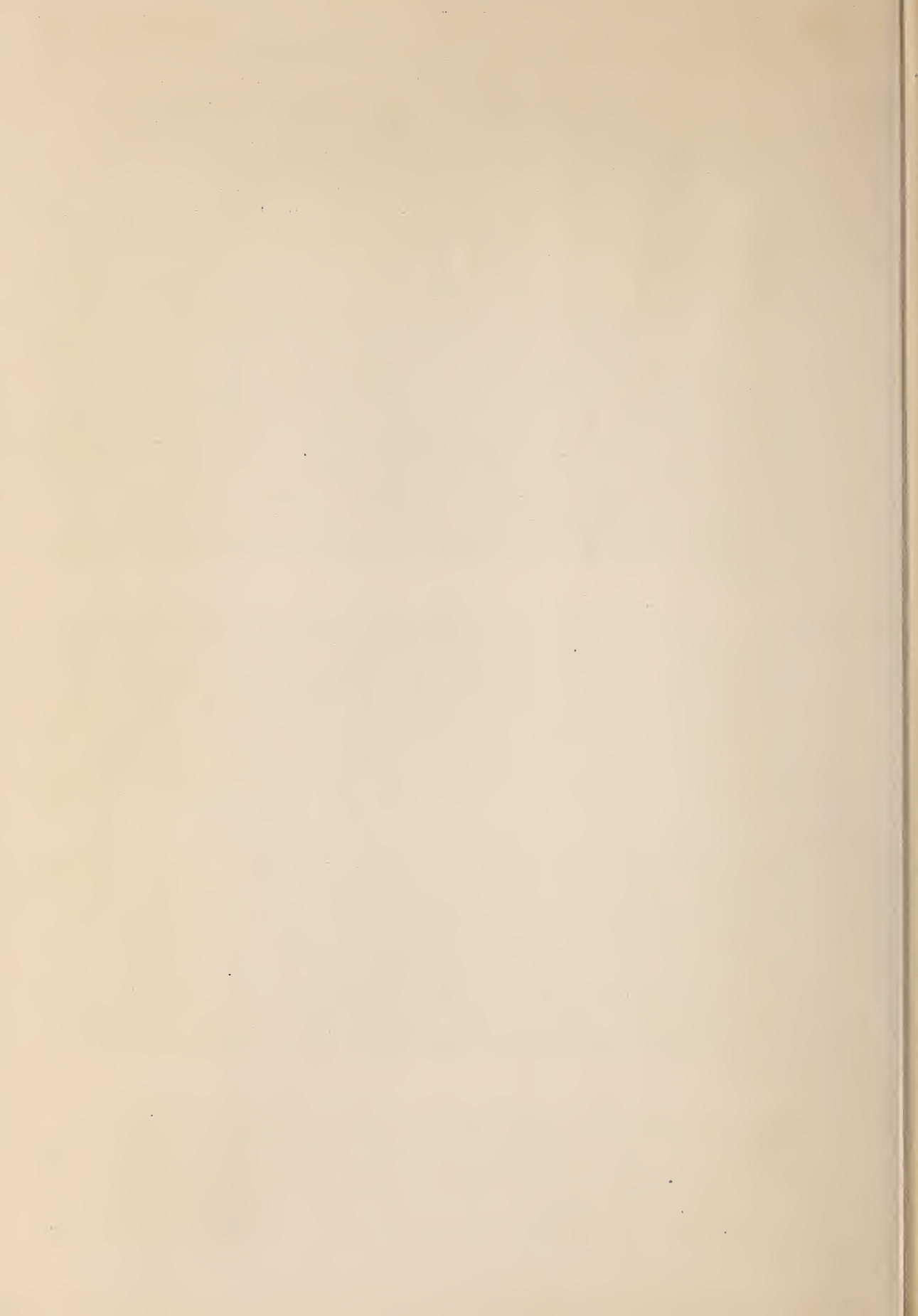
## Contests

"Forty thousand people saw the national cornhusking contest in north-west Kansas recently. The crowd was larger than that attending any central west football game this fall. Twenty thousand attended the seventh annual Nebraska State husking contest near Alma, while fifty thousand or more persons were present at the forty county husking contests in Nebraska. The national contest was broadcast throughout the country over a chain of fifty radio stations, and was photographed in silent and sound motion pictures by all the leading newsreel companies for screen release to thousands of theaters. Husking contest reports have occupied the front page of the country and metropolitan press. Never before has agriculture been in the spotlight of such favorable publicity. Why? Because the great American public is more interested than ever before in agriculture and the people engaged in it. The huskers who competed in these contests were trained and conditioned through corn field experience. They did not have the direction of an experienced coach. They wore the uniform of the farm—overalls and jacket, and perhaps a pair of soft mittens or gloves. They were just every day folks, unspoiled by press agent practice or the adulation of frenzied admirers, and yet from coast to coast the Nation listened in to the contest and applauded and acclaimed these athletes of agriculture."

## Farm Accounts

An editorial in The Prairie Farmer for December 13 says:

"Wisconsin is inaugurating a new step in rural education in getting 12,000 rural school children interested in keeping farm accounts. The new course teaches them business principles and management and at the same time teaches them the other fundamentals such as arithmetic and penmanship. The plan being used was devised by the University of Wisconsin. It separates the farm business as to enterprise and accounts."

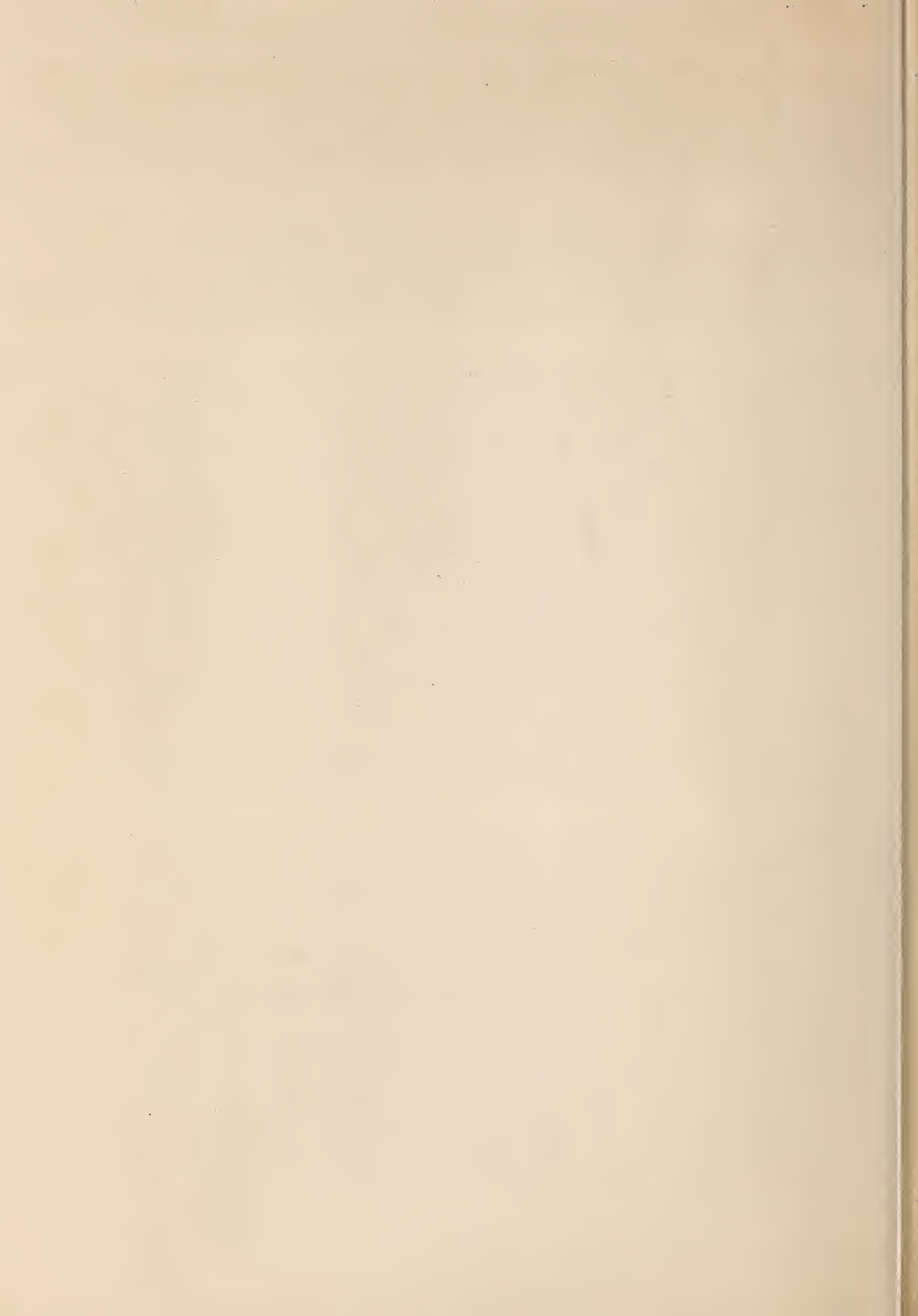


It provides a convenient form for taking the annual farm inventory and to determine the investment. All farm boys and girls should be afforded an opportunity to study farming as a business. Other States might well adopt similar courses. Some fathers and mothers may find new interest in schools and in their farm work when the youngsters are able to help them find the gains and losses of their business."

**Farm Electrification in Michigan** An editorial in The Michigan Farmer for December 13 says: "Despite the depression some things are moving rapidly. One is the electrification of farm homes. At the present time there are over 30,000 miles of power lines serving rural homes in the four States bordering on Lake Michigan. This would more than reach around the world at the equator and serves probably over 400,000 farm people."

**Farm Prices** Retail food prices in the United States, as reported to the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor, showed a decrease of about 2 per cent on November 15, 1930, when compared with October 15, 1930, and a decrease of about  $11\frac{1}{2}$  per cent since November 15, 1929. The bureau's weighted index numbers with average prices in 1913 as 100.0, were 159.7 for November 15, 1929, 144.4 for October 15, 1930, and 141.4 for November 15, 1930. During the month from October 15, 1930, to November 15, 1930, 35 articles on which monthly prices were secured decreased as follows: Oranges, 24 per cent; pork chops, 13 per cent; navy beans, 10 per cent; onions, 7 per cent; potatoes, cabbage, and prunes, 6 per cent; butter, 5 per cent; log of lamb, hons, and canned tomatoes, 4 per cent; sirloin steak, round steak, and chuck roast, 3 per cent; rib roast, plate beef, sliced ham, oleo-margarine, flour, cornmeal, rice and raisins, 2 per cent; sliced bacon, cheese, lard, bread, macaroni, pork and beans, canned corn, canned peas, tea and coffee, 1 per cent; and vegetable lard substitute, wheat cereal and bananas less than five-tenths of 1 per cent. Three articles increased: Strictly fresh eggs, 8 per cent; sugar, 2 per cent; and canned red salmon, 1 per cent. The following 4 articles showed no change in the month: Fresh milk, evaporated milk, rolled oats and corn-flakes.

**Power Machinery** An editorial in Farm and Ranch for December 13 says: "The drift is towards the use of power machinery on the farms of the country. The rapid increase in the number of tractors on farms and the decrease in the number of horses and mules has been very marked in recent years. This has brought about many studies as to the relative efficiency and economy of tractors as compared with animal power. The results of these studies have not been positive in all cases, but the preponderance of opinion favors the tractor for certain farm operations and for certain kinds of farms. Many are found who hold to the opinion that by substituting tractors for horses and mules, farmers are destroying a home market for a part of their feed crops. In using this argument, they forget that the profitable market for feedstuffs in the days of horses was in the city and not on the farm. Dispensing with the tractor on the farm would not change the situation in the city where trucks have taken the place of many thousands of horses....It is a machinery age and farmers should not condemn tractors and other power machinery without having a just reason."





Urban Drift  
in New  
Zealand

"Between 1881 and 1926 the rural population in New Zealand decreased from 62 to 48% of the total population. Politicians deplore this urban drift, but when examined in the light of economics it may be shown to be a normal, healthy movement. Purely local causes and policies (such as the tariff, land settlement laws, etc.) have too often been blamed for the drift. While these have had some influence, there are wider causes at work, and these changes are not peculiar to New Zealand. The urban drift is to some extent merely the result of specialization. So long as economic progress is real we should expect the number of people whose services are needed in primary production to increase less rapidly than the total population. The increased efficiency merely intensified the urban drift." (Econ. Rev. Nov.)

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Section 3

Department of  
Agriculture

An editorial in New England Homestead for December 13 says: "It is a source of much satisfaction to New England Homestead to find Mr. Hyde, the National Secretary of Agriculture, come out so strongly against the Government policy of bringing more millions of acres under cultivation until those now tilled return at least bare production costs: if not a fair profit. Secretary Hyde urges that we stop the senseless and uneconomic expansion of new lands, also suggests making it easier to get unprofitable sub-marginal land out of crop production....The strong statement of Secretary Hyde in his annual report to President Hoover last week is very much in order. A national land policy is sadly needed and this appears to be what Mr. Hyde is driving at. He wants farmers to unite against the giant--overproduction--and pronounces the present Federal reclamation policies inconsistent with all the efforts to curtail farm production. Says he: 'It is a serious question whether, in view of the existing overproduction in agriculture, it is advisable to promote agricultural expansion through irrigation and drainage. Studies of our land requirements which take into consideration the available land areas, the probable growth of population, the trend in consumption, technical progress in agriculture and foreign trade prospects, indicate that the present need is not agricultural expansion, but contraction. For a decade at least our chief task will be to prevent too rapid an expansion of the arable acreage.' Secretary Hyde rings the bell to a gospel of governmental reform. Will it be heeded?"

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# Section 4

## MARKET QUOTATIONS

### Farm Products

Dec. 18.--Livestock prices: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers; steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$9.25 to \$14; cows, good and choice \$5.25 to \$7.50; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$8.50 to \$12.75; vealers, good and choice \$7.50 to \$10; feeder and stocker cattle; steers, good and choice \$7 to \$9; heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$7.50 to \$7.80; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$7.90 to \$8.10; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$7.50 to \$8 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$7.25 to \$8.50; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$5.50 to \$7.50.

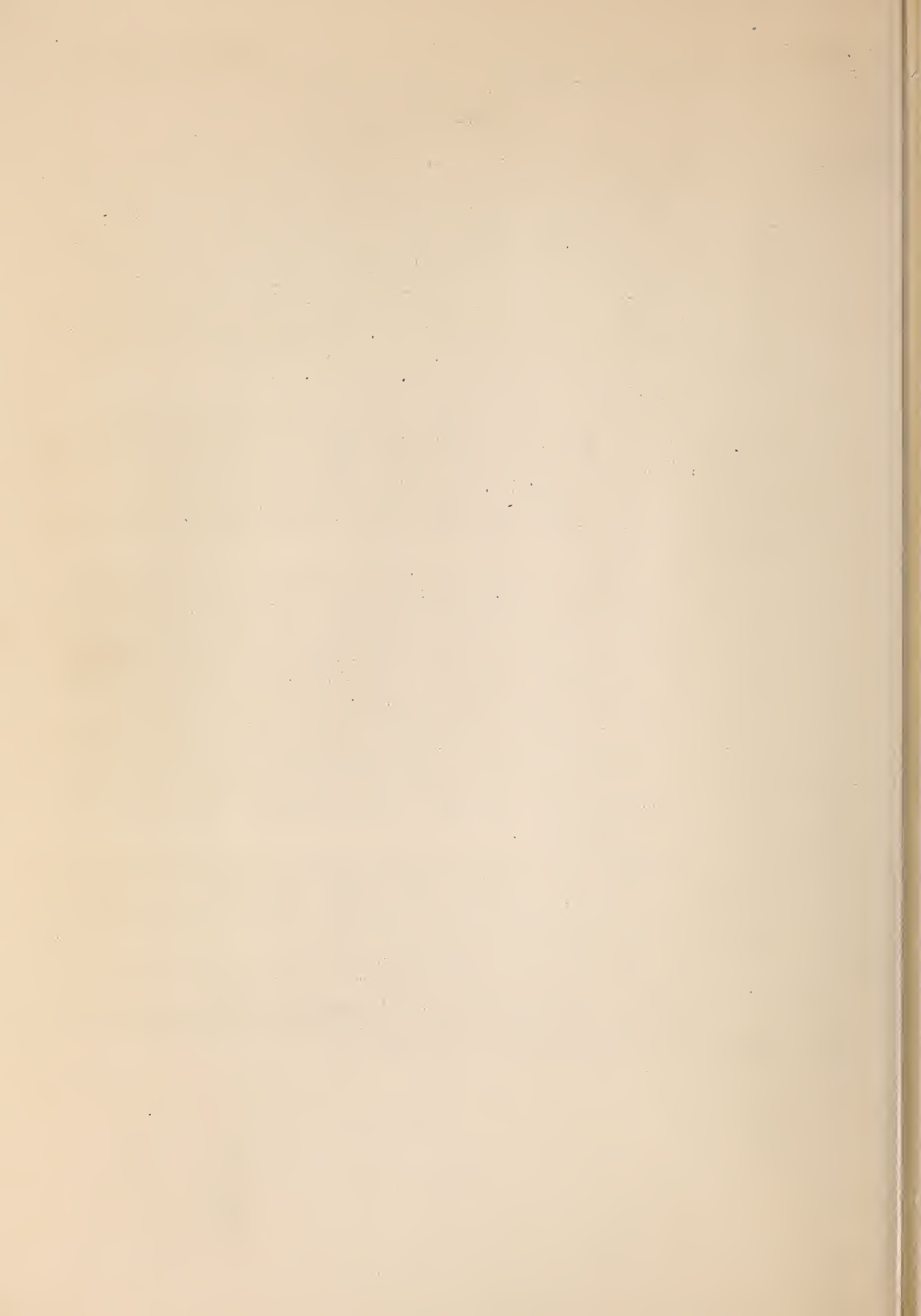
Grain prices: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis  $75\frac{1}{2}$  to  $78\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.2 red winter Chicago  $81\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; St. Louis 82 to  $83\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.2 hard winter Chicago  $78\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City  $70\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to 71¢; No.3 mixed corn Chicago  $66\frac{3}{4}$  to  $68\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; Minneapolis  $57\frac{1}{2}$  to  $59\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City 61 to 64¢; No.3 yellow corn Chicago  $67\frac{1}{2}$  to  $68\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Minneapolis  $60\frac{1}{2}$  to  $63\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; St. Louis  $68\frac{1}{2}$  to  $69\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City 63 to 66¢; No.3 white oats Chicago  $32\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Minneapolis  $27\frac{1}{2}$  to  $28\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; St. Louis 34¢; Kansas City  $33\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

Maine Green Mountains \$1.80-\$2.10 sacked per 100 pounds in the East; mostly \$1.35 f.o.b. Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites \$1.35-\$1.45 carlot sales in Chicago. New York and Midwestern sacked yellow onions \$1-\$1.50 per 100 pounds in city markets; 90¢-95¢ f.o.b. West Michigan points. New York Danish type cabbage \$20-\$23 bulk per ton in terminal markets; few \$14 f.o.b. Rochester. Florida and South Carolina Pointed type \$1.25-\$2 per  $1\frac{1}{2}$ -bushel hamper in eastern cities. Delaware and Maryland yellow sweet potatoes \$1-\$1.85 per bushel hamper in the East. Tennessee Nancy Halls \$1-\$1.40 in the Middle West. New York Rhode Island Greening apples \$1.25 per bushel basket in New York City; one car \$1.35 f.o.b. Rochester. New York McIntosh  $\$1.12\frac{1}{2}$ -\$1.25 in New York. Michigan Rhode Island Greenings \$1.50-\$1.75 in Chicago.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets declined 13 points to 8.95¢ per lb. On the same day one year ago the price stood at 16.47¢. New December future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 13 points to 9.65¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 18 points to 9.64¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 30¢ inside; 91 score,  $29\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; 90 score,  $28\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats,  $17\frac{1}{2}$ -19¢; Single Daisies,  $17\frac{1}{4}$ - $17\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Young Americas,  $17\frac{3}{4}$ -18¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.).





# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XXXIX, No. 69

Section 1

December 20, 1930.

## DROUGHT BILL PASSED

The press to-day reports that the first of President Hoover's emergency relief measures was approved by Congress yesterday. Both Senate and House, without roll-call, passed the \$45,000,000 joint resolution for the relief of farmers in drought and storm stricken areas.

The joint resolution says in part: "For the relief of farmers in the drought and/or storm stricken areas of the United States. Resolved, by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of Agriculture is hereby authorized, for the crop of 1931, to make advances or loans to farmers in drought and/or storm stricken areas of the United States where he shall find that an emergency for such assistance exists for the purchase of seed of suitable crops, fertilizer, feed for work stock, and/or fuel and oil for tractors used for crop production, and for such other purposes incident to crop production as may be prescribed by the Secretary of Agriculture. Such advances, loans or sales shall be made upon such terms and conditions and subject to such regulations as the Secretary of Agriculture shall prescribe, including an agreement by each farmer to use the seed and fertilizer thus obtained by him for crop production...All such loans, advances and sales shall be made through such agencies as the Secretary of Agriculture may designate, and in such amounts as such agencies, with the approval of the Secretary of Agriculture, may determine. For carrying out the purposes of this resolution, including all expenses and charges incurred in so doing, there is hereby authorized to be appropriated, out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$45,000,000..."

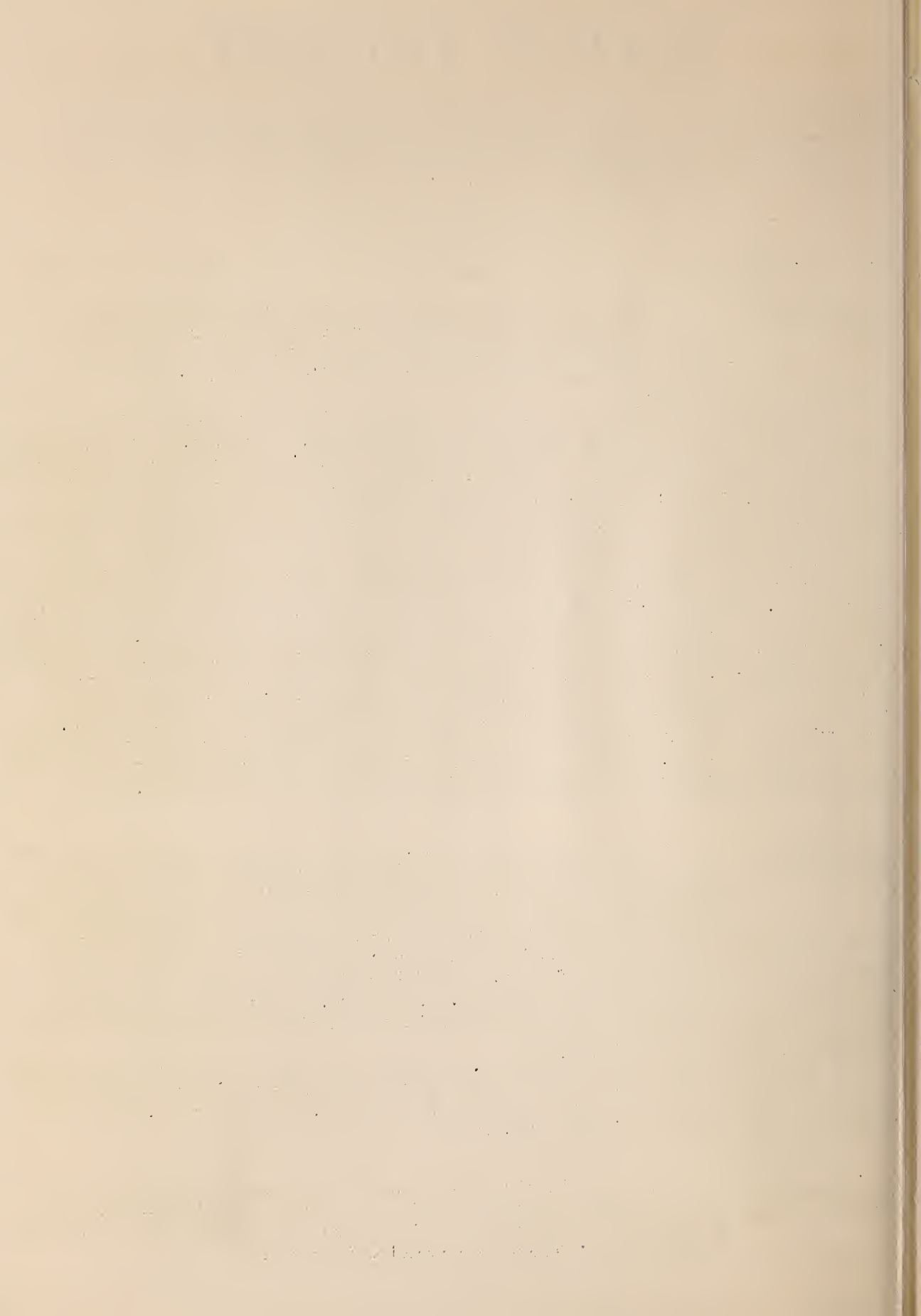
## OTHER RELIEF BILLS

The press to-day reports: "With Congress speeding up as the recess nears, the measure appropriating \$116,000,000 for use on public works to reduce unemployment appeared to be in a fair way to reach final passage and will be taken up in the Senate to-day. The House yesterday voted to accept the report of the conferees on the \$116,000,000 measure, the conferees having reached a partial agreement, but insisted upon its disagreement to three Senate amendments, two of them dealing with appropriations for highway building in Alabama and Georgia. The third, the Couzens amendment, would compel contractors to use local workers in the public improvements for which the \$116,000,000 is to be expended.

"The House bill appropriating \$150,000,000 for use by the Federal Farm Board to help stabilize crop prices and provide for more orderly marketing was favorably reported to the Senate from the appropriations committee, but Senator Borah objected to its immediate consideration...."

## GERMAN SUGAR MEN TO CONFER

A Berlin dispatch to-day states that the German delegates to the adjourned sugar conference will assemble at Berlin to-day to discuss the advisability of continuing negotiations and the position to take if the conference reassembles in Paris.



## Section 2

**Agricultural Journalism** "Agriculture owes a debt of gratitude to agricultural journalism, which, unfortunately, is not always fully appreciated. These journals easily comprise the most effective distribution of useful information on approved farm practice and rural farm life in operation to-day. The farm journal in the home is a constant reminder of the best thought on home life and farm operation. It not only caters to the farmer, but to his wife and children. It is not surprising, then, that this policy of giving recognition to the pioneers in successful farm practice, home building, and good citizenship generally, owes its inception to agricultural journalism...." (J.H.Evans, Deputy Minister of Agriculture for Manitoba.)

**Dairy Industry** An editorial in National Butter Journal for December says: "In spite of continued agricultural depression one hears little complaint about butterfat prices. The farmers of the country still have faith in the dairy industry. They know that the good dairy cow is their best investment. While butterfat prices have skidded downwards they are still high compared with the prices of feed and livestock. Farmers are informed about markets. They know of the world's overproduction of farm products, as well as most everything else. They believe that when normal times again prevail butterfat prices will be among the first to go up. In the meantime their cream crop is the best crop they produce."

**Fruit and Vegetable Grading** "Great progress has been made in Louisiana during the past three years in grading and packing fruits and vegetables shipped to northern markets. There is more however that must be done firmly to establish Louisiana products on the central markets, states B. B. Jones, county agent. Further, Mr. Jones says: 'Some growers and shippers have not cooperated as they should, and so the State grading law must be brought into play to help correct conditions. Notice has been served by the State Marketing Commission that beginning immediately there will be a strict enforcement of the grading law, and all shippers are to be required properly to grade and mark their products. Louisiana products had a poor reputation on central markets a few years back but with good grading and packing by many shippers, a good reputation is slowly but surely being established in the large markets. The State-Federal shipping point inspection service is available to all shippers and it is doing much to improve conditions and help get better prices.'" (Manufacturers Record, Dec. 18.)

**Legge on Cotton Situation** The Wall St. Journal for December 19 says: "Chairman Legge, of Federal Farm Board, is of the opinion that cotton will continue on an export basis because this commodity is situated differently than wheat as regards world outlook. The chairman reiterated the view that there is no prospect of wheat coming back as an export crop, but pointed out that cotton situation is largely the result of a flattened demand. He also expressed belief that there would be an export demand for American cotton in a little time. It was explained that cost of producing cotton is pretty much the same throughout the world, the effect of which is to put all countries on a competitive basis. Asked whether any further cotton price stabilization operations were contemplated, Mr. Legge said there was none under way at present."



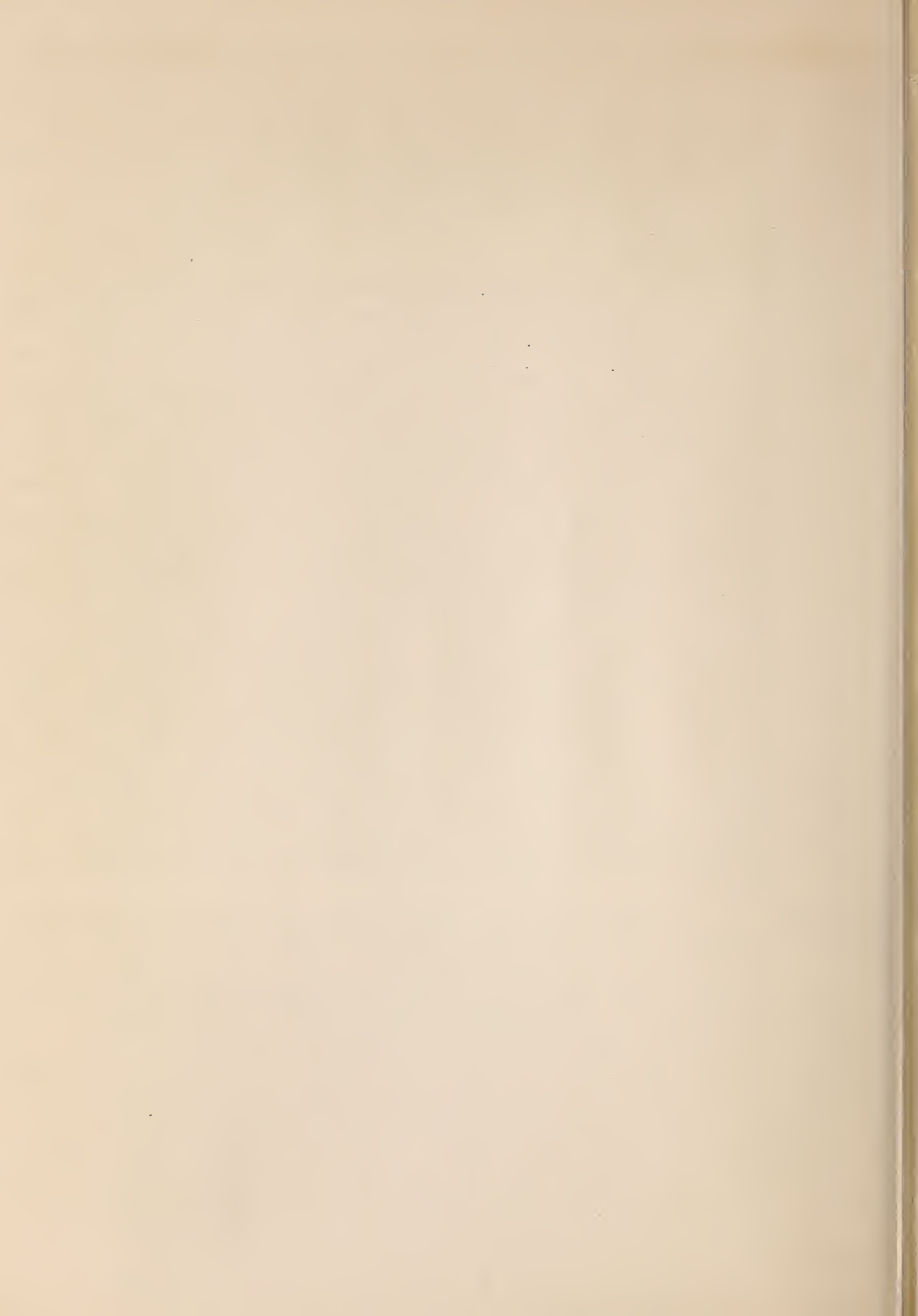


## Prices

The course of wholesale prices was downward in November, according to the index number computed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor. This index number, which includes 550 price quotations weighted according to the importance of each article and based on prices in 1926 as 100.0, declined from 82.6 in October to 80.4 in November, a decrease of over  $2\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. The purchasing power of the 1926 dollar was \$1.244. Farm products as a group decreased 4 per cent from the October level, due to lower prices for all grains, beef cows, calves, hogs, poultry, beans, flaxseed, oranges, and potatoes. Beef steers, sheep and lambs, cotton, eggs, alfalfa hay, and onions, on the other hand, averaged higher. Foods were  $3\frac{1}{4}$  per cent lower than in October, with declines in butter, fresh pork, dressed poultry, veal, coffee, flour, cornmeal, and most canned vegetables. Raw and granulated sugar were somewhat higher than in the month before. Practically no change in price was reported for fresh beef, cured pork, cured fish, canned and dried fruits, and bakery products. Hides and skins showed a further pronounced price drop, while leather also declined. No change was reported for boots and shoes and other leather products. In the group of textile products there was a slight increase among cotton goods. Silk and rayon, woolen and worsted goods, and other textile products, on the contrary, were downward. Anthracite and bituminous coal and coke showed no change in the general price level, while petroleum products moved sharply downward, resulting in a decrease for fuel and lighting materials as a whole. Among metals and metal products there was a slight decrease in iron and steel, also automobiles, while nonferrous metals advanced. Building materials showed little change, as lumber, brick, cement, and certain paint materials declined slightly and other materials advanced. Chemicals and drugs, including fertilizer materials and mixed fertilizers, were somewhat cheaper than in October. Housefurnishing goods were practically unchanged in price, but with a downward tendency. In the group of miscellaneous commodities cattle feed moved sharply downward and crude rubber reacted upward from its recent low prices. Automobile tires were lower than in the preceding month, while paper and pulp were unchanged in price. In the large group of nonagricultural commodities, including all articles other than farm products, and among all commodities other than farm products and foods, November prices averaged lower than those of the month before.

Sugar Over-  
production

An editorial in The Washington Post for December 19 says: "The remarkable thing about the international sugar conference, which has just closed its sessions in Brussels, is not its failure, but its close approach to success. Cuban and Javanese sugar interests had reached an agreement to limit exports before they went to Brussels to meet the leading beet sugar producers of Europe. Poland, Czechoslovakia, Belgium and Hungary agreed to the limitations proposed for them by Thomas L. Chadbourne, of New York, promoter of the conference. Germany however, refused to cooperate, on the ground that the economic position of the Reich is such that its export program must be expanded to keep abreast of reparations payments and other international obligations. Germany has been given a month to reconsider, however. This proposed experiment in stabilization of prices is particularly interesting because it attempts to limit exports rather than production. The world is confronted with an overproduction of sugar. The price frequently sags,



below the cost of production. But no one country and no combination of interests is capable of limiting production. The Chadbourne plan does not attempt to regulate conditions within the borders of the exporting countries...Should the sugar exporting nations bring about an improvement in the world sugar market countries which now import their sugar may develop domestic supplies of their own. Russia is threatening to dump large quantities of sugar on the markets of Europe. A better price would undoubtedly stimulate production in the United States, the Philippine Islands and in many other parts of the world...."

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### Section 3

Department of  
Agriculture

An article on "The Facts Food Labels Tell" in Practical Home Economics for December, says: "...Regulatory actions under the pure food law have revolutionized the canning industry--to the benefit of the manufacturer as well as the public--and have worked vast changes in other food industries. To-day, we find the great majority of food manufacturers operating in legitimate and safe ways. The canning industry itself took a most active part in the passage of the recent amendment to the food and drugs act, commonly called the Cannerymen's Bill, which directs the Secretary of Agriculture to set legal standards for certain-canned foods. This whole-hearted cooperation is somewhat paradoxical when we remember that the canning industries were by no means united in the support of food legislation back in 1906. And so to-day the housewife who goes to the store for a manufactured food product has, in the majority of cases, only herself to blame if she does not get what she pays for. The pure-food law requires certain definite specifications on food labels...If the buyer will read the quantity-of-contents statement on the label she will know exactly which is the better buy..."

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# Section 4

## MARKET QUOTATIONS

### Farm Products

Dec. 19.--Livestock prices: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers; steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$9.25 to \$14; cows, good and choice \$5.25 to \$7.50; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$8.50 to \$12.75; vealers, good and choice \$7.50 to \$10; feeder and stocker cattle; steers, good and choice \$7 to \$9; heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$7.55 to \$7.85; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$8.10 to \$8.15; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$7.50 to \$8.10 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$7.25 to \$8.50; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$5.50 to \$7.50.

Grain prices: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis 75  $\frac{5}{8}$  to 78  $\frac{5}{8}$ ¢; No.2 red winter St. Louis 82 to 83 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.2 hard winter Kansas City 70 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.3 mixed corn Chicago 66 to 66 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Minneapolis 58 to 60¢; Kansas City 60 to 61 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.3 yellow corn 66 to 66 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Minneapolis 61 to 64¢; St. Louis 66 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 68¢; Kansas City 62 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 64 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.3 white oats Chicago 32 $\frac{1}{4}$  to 32 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Minneapolis 28  $\frac{3}{8}$  to 29  $\frac{3}{8}$ ¢; St. Louis 33 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City 32 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 33¢.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets declined 7 points to 8.88¢ per lb. On the same day last year the price stood at 16.32¢. New December future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 6 points to 9.59¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange were unchanged at 9.64¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 30¢; 91 score, 29 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; 90 score, 28 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢-19¢; Single Daisies, 17 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢-17 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Young Americas, 17 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢-18¢.

Maine sacked Green Mountain potatoes brought \$1.85-\$2.10 per 100 pounds in eastern cities; mostly \$1.40 f.o.b. Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites \$1.30-\$1.40 carlot sales in Chicago; few \$1.20-\$1.25 f.o.b. Waupaca. New York Danish type cabbage ranged \$19-\$23 bulk per ton in terminal markets; \$13-\$15 f.o.b. Rochester. New York and Midwestern sacked yellow onions \$1-\$1.50 per 100 pounds in consuming centers; 90¢ f.o.b. Rochester. New York McIntosh apples \$1.25-\$1.75; Rhode Island Greenings \$1.25-\$1.50; Northwestern Greenings \$1-\$1.25 and Baldwins \$1.15-\$1.25 per bushel basket in New York City; Baldwins \$1.50 f.o.b. Rochester, for cold storage stock. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

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# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. XXXIX, No. 70

Section 1

December 22, 1930.

## THE PRESIDENT SIGNS RELIEF BILLS

President Hoover on Saturday signed the bill appropriating \$116,000,000 for emergency construction work in aid of the Nation's unemployed and the measure appropriating \$45,000,000 for relief of farmers in the area affected by the drought of last summer and fall.

Both branches of Congress on Saturday adopted the conference report on the bill appropriating \$116,000,000, thus completing the emergency relief program of Congress. (Press, Dec. 21.)

In commenting on the bills signed, the Baltimore Sun to-day says: "...With Congress in recess for the holidays, the Chief Executive will be able to devote most of his time to unemployment and drought relief measures. The latter will be administered by the Department of Agriculture, which has the most effective machinery for making loans to hard-pressed farmers. A number of conferences with Secretary Hyde, however, are scheduled, probably for the purpose of widening activities concerning seed loans..."

## IN CONGRESS

The press to-day says: "...None of the eleven regular appropriation bills providing funds for operation of the Government in the next fiscal year has got through the Senate....Administration leaders intend to concentrate after the holidays on putting through these vital bills, without which President Hoover will be forced to call an extra session. Also, they are going to seek an early solution of the long deadlock over disposition of the Muscle Shoals, Ala., power and nitrate plant. The House has sent to the Senate two other appropriation bills--the \$68,000,000 for the Interior Department and the \$213,000,000 for the Agricultural Department....

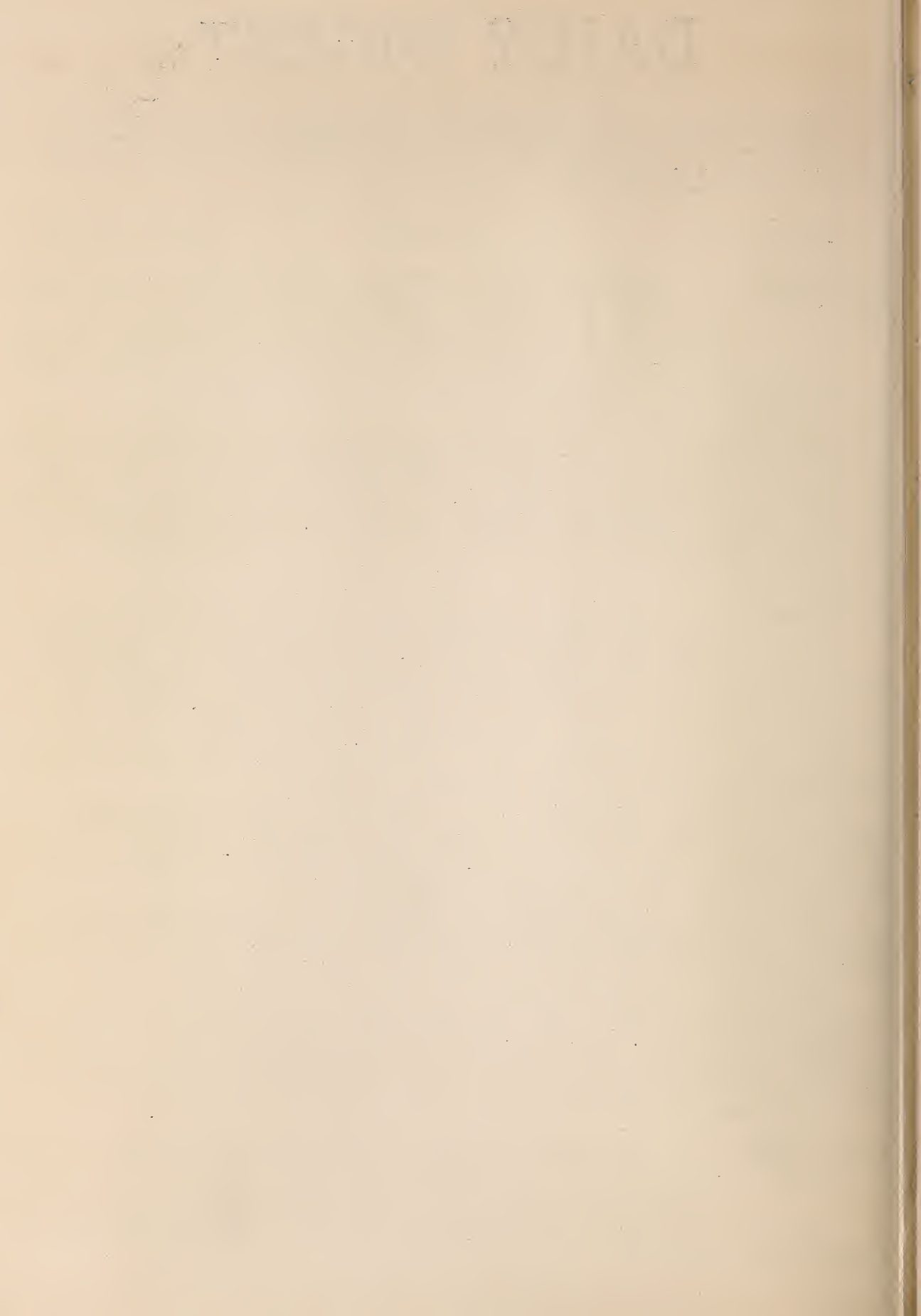
"When Congress reconvenes on Jan. 5 there will be fifty-one legislative days in which to pass the remaining supply bills and consider controversial legislation. Leaders predict that the remaining supply bills can be disposed of by the middle of February. This would leave two weeks for action on the anti-injunction bill, Muscle Shoals and the Norris 'lame duck' resolution...."

The issuance of agricultural export debentures would be provided under a bill introduced on Saturday by Representative Jones of Texas. The debenture rates would be one-half the duty except on cotton and tobacco which would carry returns of 2 cents a pound each. (A.P., Dec. 21.)

"The Senate on Saturday rejected the conference report on the Post Office-Treasury appropriation bill. The conference report denied Government employees the increases carried in the estimate and proposed by President Hoover to provide one-third, approximately, of the amount necessary to eliminate existing discrepancies in salaries paid employees in the various departments of the Government..." (Press, Dec. 21.)

## RESERVE BOARD APPOINTMENT

The press of December 21 states that the President conferred on Saturday with S. H. Thompson of Chicago, president of the American Farm Bureau Federation, regarding the appointment of a successor to Edward Cunningham of Iowa of the Federal Reserve Board. The report says: "Mr. Cunningham has been generally looked on as the spokesman for agriculture on the board...."



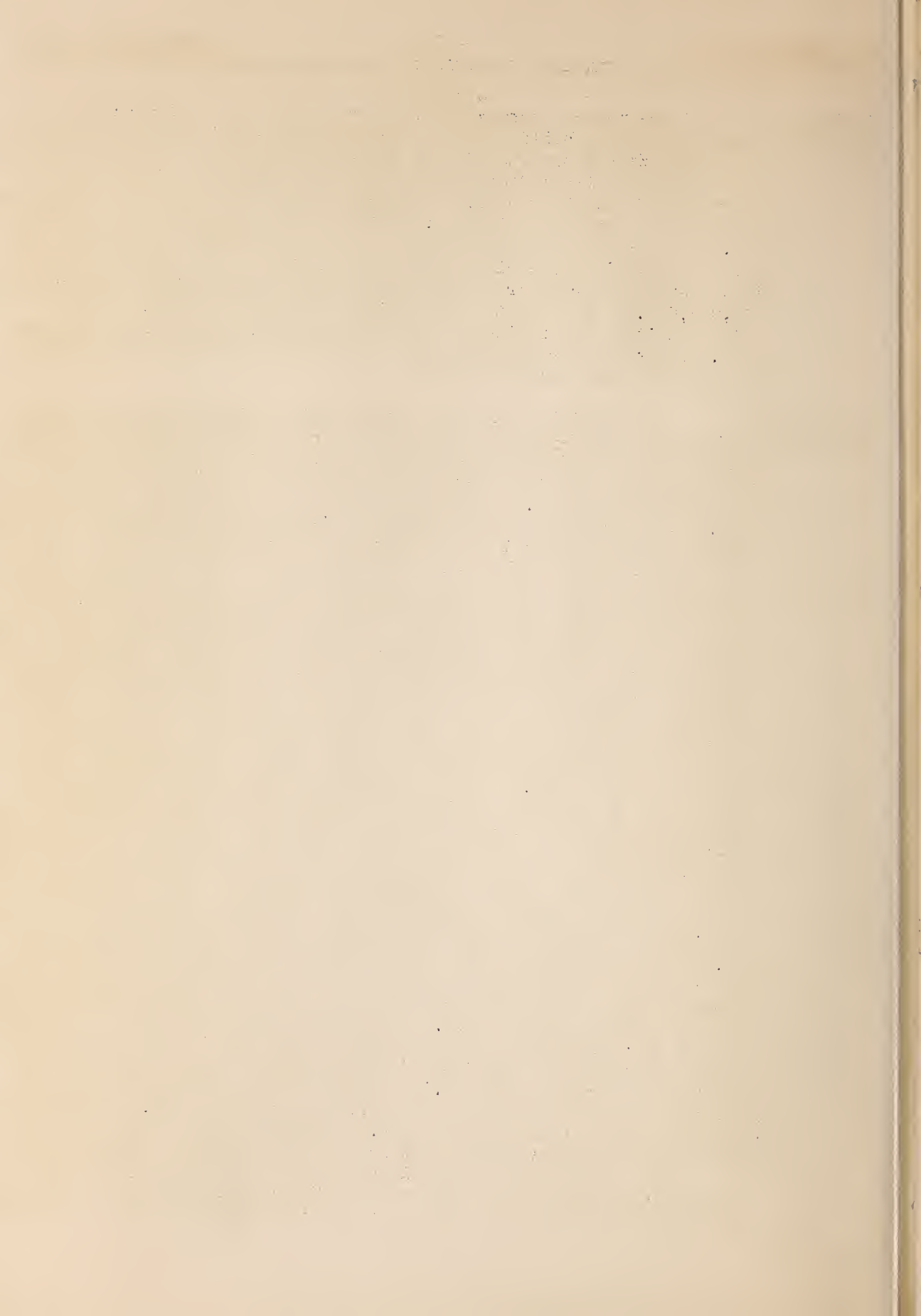


## Section 2

**Building Operations**      There was an increase of 1.7 per cent in the estimated cost of new nonresidential buildings for which permits were issued in November, as compared with those issued in October, according to reports received by the Bureau of Labor Statistics from 288 comparable cities having a population of 25,000 or over. However, there was a decrease of 5.3 per cent in the estimated cost of new residential buildings and a decrease of 6.8 per cent in the estimated cost of all building operations, comparing permits issued during these two periods. The estimated cost of all building projects for which permits were issued during November was \$118,949,079. According to the permits issued in November, 1930, dwelling units were provided for 10,743 families, which was a decrease of 10.9 per cent as compared with the families provided for according to permits issued during October.

**Comparative Conditions**      An editorial entitled "Better Days" in The Country Gentleman for January says: "Anyone indulging in an outlook for American farming will do well to avoid one prevalent but unsafe piece of reasoning. That is in assuming present unfavorable conditions to be either something new or permanent in nature. Neither conclusion is supported by past experience. To a striking extent present conditions in agriculture and attitudes of mind regarding it have had their counterparts before. Following the Civil War, though not so immediately as after the World War, a great wave of improvement swept over the North, being especially marked in the Middle West. It was accompanied by numerous bond issues and a rise in the public debt resulting in taxes proportionately as high, when values of that time are considered, as those of to-day. Preceding it had been a period of relatively good times and high prices for farm products. Under the stimulus of the war there had been a great advance in farm machinery and the use of it. The effect of this was so pronounced that, even with depleted man power and larger needs at home, our exports of grain actually increased during the war. These circumstances, just as those of recent memory, led to a soaring of land values and frenzied buying with a consequent swelling of the mortgage debt. Farming, as in 1920-1921, was in an insecure position when the inevitable reaction came. The similarity of the reaction to that of recent experience is revealed in the comments of one of the keenest agricultural observers of his time, B. F. Johnson, who, living at Champaign, Illinois, was so situated as to see its full aspects. Writing in The Country Gentleman in the later seventies, he spoke of 'the great burden of debt that now lies on the land, and on all real estate, in the shape of mortgages, trust deeds and tax liens.' Describing the effects of this situation, he wrote: 'The price of land is low indeed when we see such rich central Illinois farms selling at \$20 and \$25 an acre. But these prices represent the indebtedness of the country and not the value of the land. If we removed that burden they would be worth \$40 and \$50 an acre, and they will be just as soon as we reach that point.' Though prices of farm products rose somewhat near the end of the seventies, the price of farm lands did not at once respond. In explaining this, Johnson's words, except for the difference in price figures, might have been fitted to immediate times...

"The opening up of new land caused an apprehension curiously like that recently in the case of the Southwest. As the rich lands of the Red and James Rivers valleys in the Northwest were taken up and great



'bonanza farms' came into operation men grew alarmed over the future of American farming. An instance, strangely akin to some recent outgivings, was the statement by Alexander Delmar, who was one of the leading observers of his day. 'I have learned,' he said, 'in a late tour of Europe, in the character of delegate to the Statistical Congress, and from other sources, that the world is to-day producing more bread than it can eat.' And that 'We, as one of the principal grain-producing countries of the world, are large participants in an overdone industry, and the sooner we abandon the policy of endowing agricultural colleges and turn the minds of our children rather to proficiency in mechanics the better.' Yet those millions of acres of new land were absorbed and agriculture was to experience, with the turn of the century, a period that many look wistfully back upon as 'the golden age of farming.'...No forces now retard the recovery of farming that are equivalent to those it had to contend with in its corresponding experience. The land that is still coming into cultivation lies in a region of scant and uncertain rainfall and is more than matched by the marginal land in older States that is going out. There are no more great areas of fertile land to be exploited; no great acreages to swell surpluses. This is the one big item of difference between the two periods, and it should be the pivotal difference that will hasten better days."

#### Wool Market

The Commercial Bulletin (Boston) for December 20 says: "The wool market continues sluggish and prices favor the buyer, although there has been comparatively little change in values this past week. The trade is watching the piece goods markets closely, but they afford little basis for optimism for the moment, although a better demand is looked for after the turn of the year. The Australian pre-holiday sales closed Thursday with prices back to the October level, the lowest of the season. With small offerings in New Zealand, however, prices were a bit firmer for crossbreds at the sale in Dunedin Thursday, largely on speculators' bidding. Some 'pre-shearing loans' have been placed in the West on the coming clip, but the National Wool Marketing Corporation has decided to reduce the amount of its loans per head, loans to be on a graded basis."

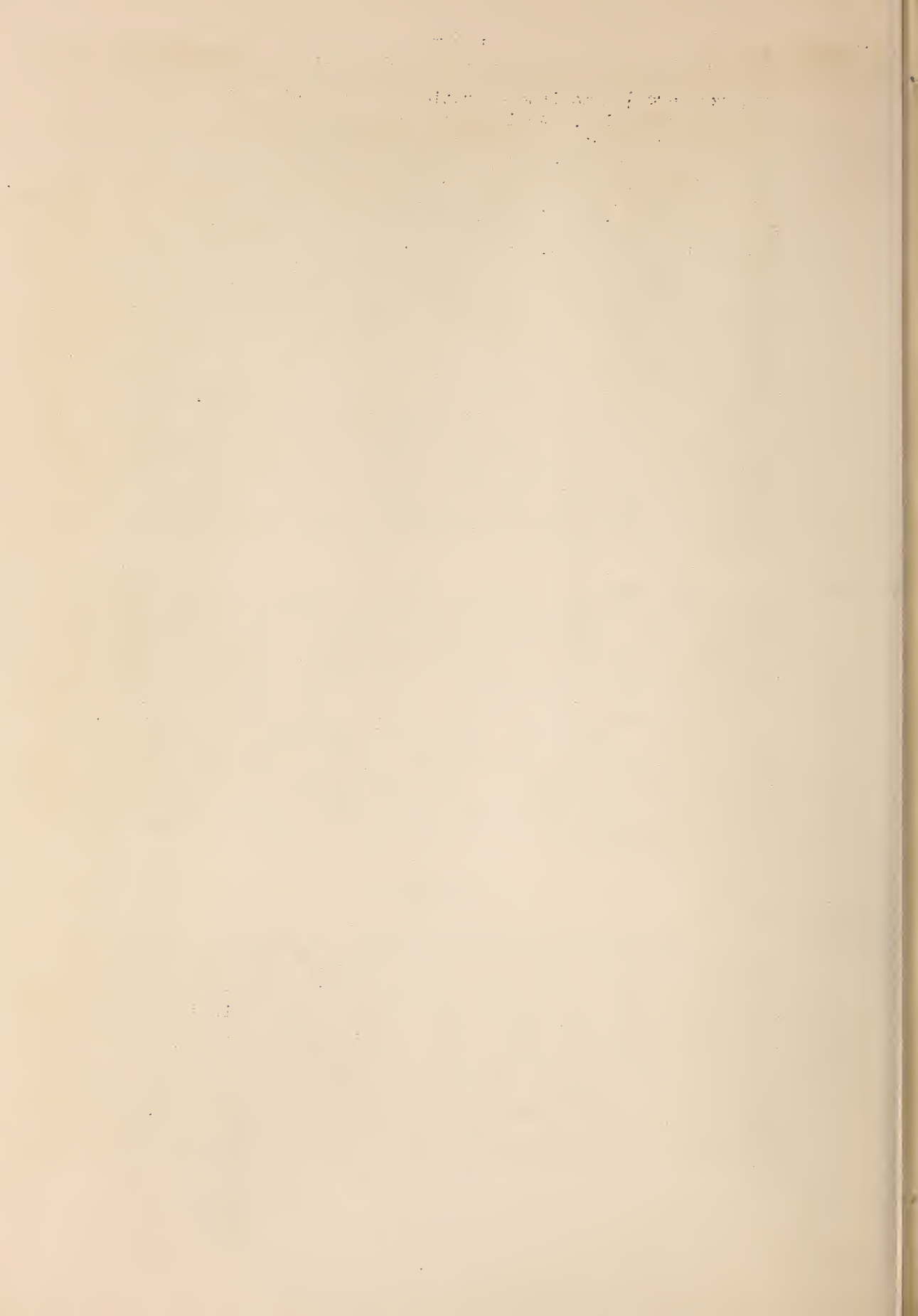
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#### Section 3

#### Department of Agriculture

An editorial in Wallaces' Farmer for December 13 says: "Are lightning rods worth while? How far away from the barn should your house be in order to be safe in case of fire? What are the advantages and disadvantages of the different types of chemical fire extinguishers? What about rural fire departments? All of these things and others are discussed in Farmers' Bulletin No. 1643, which may be obtained by writing to the United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. Fire is such a dangerous thing on the farm that a person has to experience it but once in order to be grateful to the United States Department of Agriculture for getting together such valuable information as is contained in this bulletin. We urge all of our readers to write for it."

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# Section 4 MARKET QUOTATIONS

## Farm Products

Dec. 20.--Livestock prices: Heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$7.60 to \$7.85; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$8 to \$8.10; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$7.50 to \$8.10 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations).

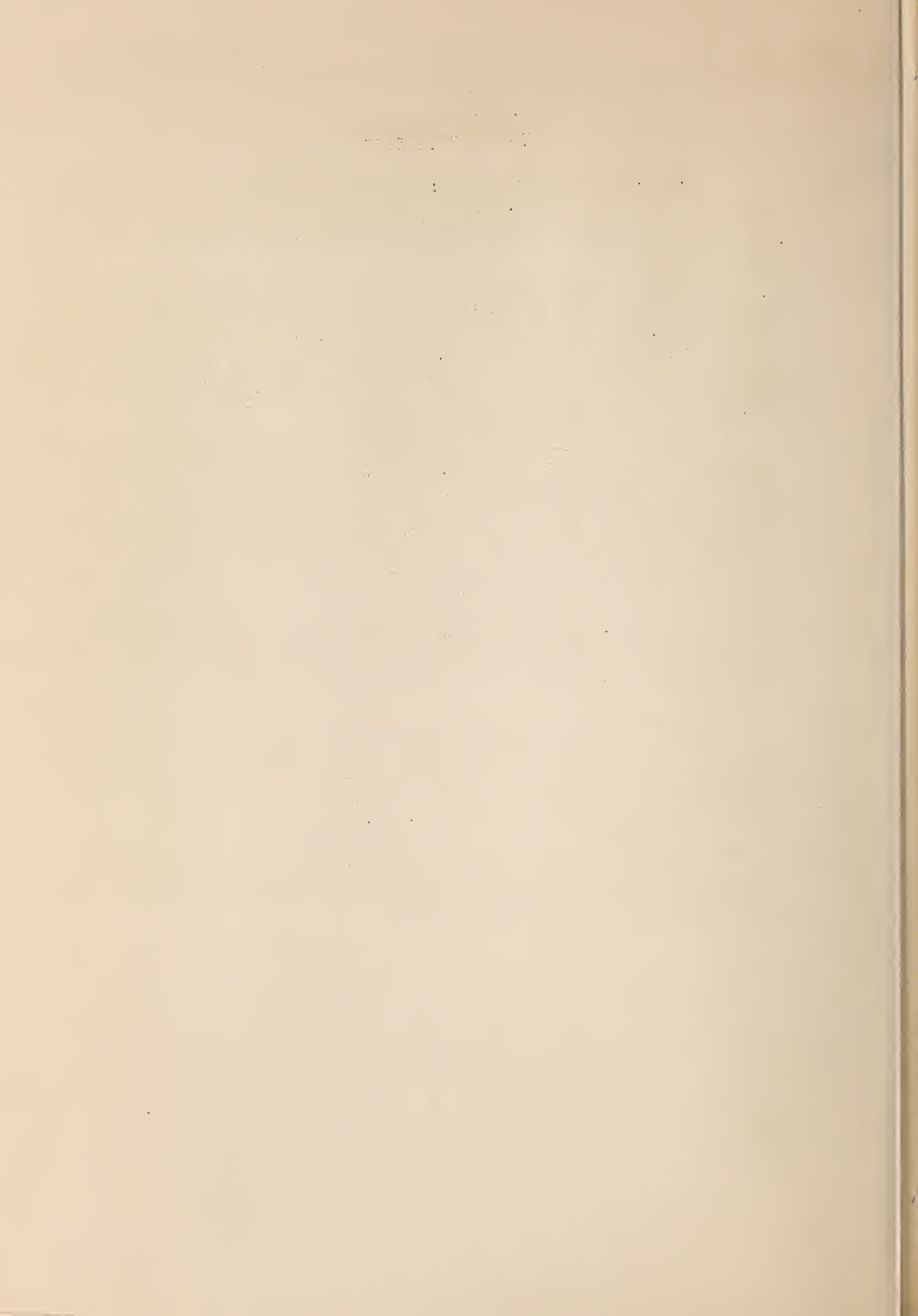
Grain prices: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis  $75\frac{1}{2}$  to  $78\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.2 red winter Chicago  $80\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; St. Louis  $81\frac{1}{2}$  to  $82$ ¢; No.2 hard winter Kansas City  $70\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No. 3 mixed corn Chicago  $65\frac{1}{4}$  to  $65\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Minneapolis 57 to 59¢; Kansas City  $58\frac{1}{2}$  to 60¢; No.3 yellow corn Chicago  $65\frac{1}{2}$  to  $66\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Minneapolis 60 to 63¢; St. Louis  $65\frac{1}{2}$  to  $66\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City 61 to  $62\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.3 white oats Chicago  $32\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Minneapolis 28 to 29¢; St. Louis  $33\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; Kansas City 32¢.

Maine sacked Green Mountain potatoes ranged \$1.75-\$2 per 100 pounds in eastern cities; \$1.35-\$1.40 f.o.b. Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites \$1.30-\$1.45 carlot sales in Chicago. New York Danish type cabbage \$18-\$23 bulk per ton in terminal markets; \$13-\$15 f.o.b. Rochester. Florida and South Carolina Pointed type \$1.25-\$2 per  $\frac{1}{2}$ -bushel hamper in the East. Delaware and Maryland yellow sweet potatoes \$1.25-\$1.50 per bushel hamper in city markets. Tennessee Nancy Halls \$1.25-\$1.35 in the Middle West. New York and Midwestern sacked yellow onions ranged \$1-\$1.40 per 100 pounds in consuming centers; 90¢ f.o.b. Rochester. New York Rhode Island Greening apples \$1.25-\$1.50; Wealthys \$1; and McIntosh \$1.25-\$1.50 per bushel basket in New York City; Baldwins \$1.45-\$1.50 and Rhode Island Greenings \$1.35 f.o.b. Rochester.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets advanced 10 points to 8.98¢ per lb. On the same day one year ago the price stood at 16.58¢. New December future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 11 points to 9.70¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange advanced 8 points to 9.72¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score,  $30\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; 91 score, 30¢; 90 score, 29¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats,  $17\frac{1}{2}$ -19¢; Single Daisies,  $17\frac{1}{4}$ - $17\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Young Americas,  $17\frac{3}{4}$ -18¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)



# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XXXIX, No. 71

Section 1

December 23, 1930.

## FARMERS ASKED TO AID UNEMPLOYED

The program of the President's Emergency Committee for Employment was extended yesterday by Colonel Arthur Woods to include more than 6,000,000 farm owners and operators, with a plea that they aid in creating jobs for the unemployed, according to the press to-day. "The committee has been informed," Colonel Woods said, "that in many areas such work as the construction and repair of farm buildings and facilities, private road-building, ditching, repairing fences and repair and replacement of machinery and many other projects can be done economically during the winter months. The interest and cooperation of all those in a position to hasten such projects to relieve by employment the distressed persons of their neighborhood is vital in meeting the emergency which will exist in many regions during coming months."

Colonel Woods stated that he had brought to the attention of the committee that many of the unemployed, through failure to obtain employment in industrial centers, had returned to rural communities from which they originally came.

## CENSUS DISCLOSES URBAN TRENDS

The drift of population from the country to the city in the past decade increased the ratio of urban to rural inhabitants in the 1930 census by 4.8 per cent, the Census Bureau announced yesterday, according to the press to-day. In the 1930 census the urban population was 68,955,521, or 56.2 per cent of the whole, and the rural population was 53,819,525, whereas in the 1920 census the urban population was 54,304,603, or 51.4 per cent of the whole, and the rural population was 51,406,017.

The Associated Press to-day says: "In disclosing yesterday the 1930 gain in urban over rural population, William M. Steuart, Director of the Census, stated that his figures told but part of the city-concentration story. 'The urban figure does not take into consideration the rapid development of the suburbs during the past ten years,' he said. Asserting that every large city, and smaller cities to some extent, had just-across-the-boundary populations that should logically be added to town and shaved off country, Mr. Steuart added: 'With new paved roads, new autos, new deluxe buses, more and more city people have been going outside where they could get better air, less crowded living conditions. Yet their work and interests remain in the city. They belong to the city.'...The Census Director pointed to the District of Columbia, 100 per cent urban, as example. Having hit top, so far as being citified is concerned, the District is now spilling over, all around the edges. Yet only where the overflow numbers 2,500 and makes of itself an organized community can it be counted urban under census rulings."

## RUSSIAN FOOD DISTRIBUTION

An Associated Press dispatch to-day from Moscow says: "Soviet Russia is revising her entire food distribution system under a decree published yesterday by the central committee of the Communist party. Its prime object, beyond removal of sabotage agents boring from within, appeared to be provision of more food for the stunted millions in areas far from agricultural centers...."





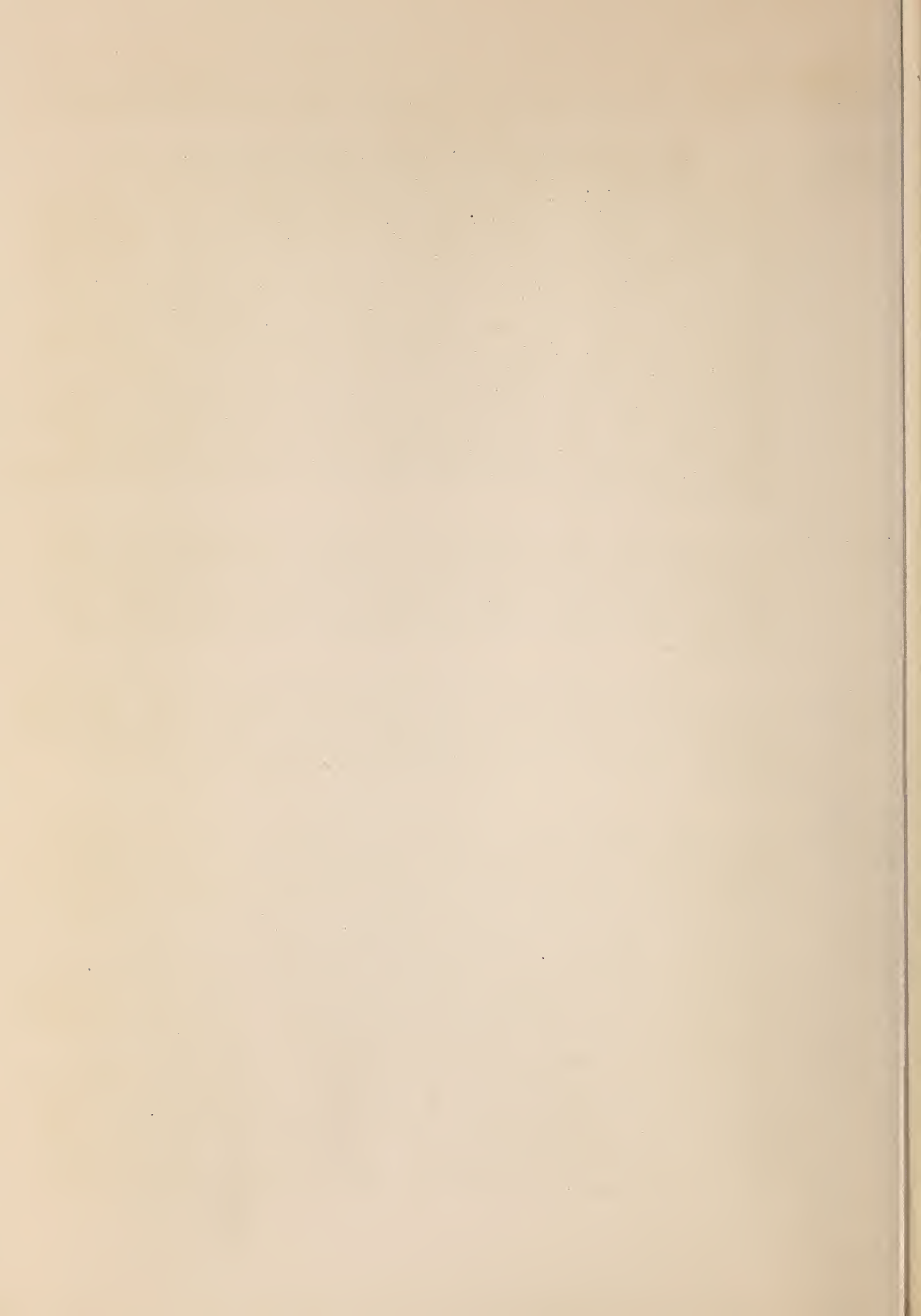
## Section 2

Foreign Game In-  
troductio  
An editorial in Hunter Trader Trapper for January, 1931, says: "Foreign game birds that can be raised under comparatively artificial conditions are being introduced successfully into Canadian and American fields and woodlands. Benjamin Lawton, game commissioner of Alberta, reports that the Hungarian partridge is being established with remarkable success in the Canadian western provinces. While this bird and others that may be 'planted' should not be thought of as replacing the native species of game birds, the establishment of the Hungarian will go a long way toward keeping up a balance of game reserves it is said. Though the Hungarian partridge has not been established in the United States as yet, his tribe is being raised on a large scale in Oregon, Washington, Montana and the Canadian western provinces. More recent attempts to establish the Hungarian are being made in New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Ohio. A successful experiment is reported from Minnesota. The Hungarian partridge can thrive in latitudes farther north than quail choose as a natural habitat, game breeders report."

German Milk  
Bars  
A Berlin dispatch December 14 states that Berlin "milk bars" are winning many from German beer. For 10 pfennigs (about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  cents) a check is obtained from an automatic device which is exchanged at the bar for a large glass of milk, served by an attractive barmaid. The girls are kept so busy that some anticipate a grave decline in beer consumption.

Hops in  
Czechoslo-  
vakia  
A Prague dispatch to the press of December 14 says: "Czechoslovak hop producers are urging the reduction of acreage, as at present no market can be found for the oversupply of hops, owing to American prohibition, reduction of beer consumption in Germany and other beer-drinking countries, and the present world economic crisis. "

National  
Wealth of  
England  
An editorial in The Journal of Commerce for December 18 says: "Sir Josiah Stamp recently estimated the national wealth of England at 18,000,000,000 pounds, basing his computations upon a capitalization of returns from various classes of income producing property. As the resultant totals vary with the rate selected for purposes of determining the capital value of the income producer, the absolute figures are necessarily arbitrary. They are of doubtful value for purposes of international comparison and, except with many allowances for changes in price levels and in interest rates, they are not of much use in tracing the growth of wealth within any single country. In the case of England, a pre-war estimate made by Sir Josiah places the nation's wealth at 14,000,000,000 pounds to 16,000,000,000 pounds. Even if the figures are not strictly comparable, it seems that the country is probably worse off than it was before the war in view of the lower present day value of the pound. A careful annual survey of national wealth such as Sir Josiah has attempted continued over a long period of years and based upon the same methods of computation might have more than an academic value, but occasional estimates have little practical significance."



## World Wool

Textile  
Industry

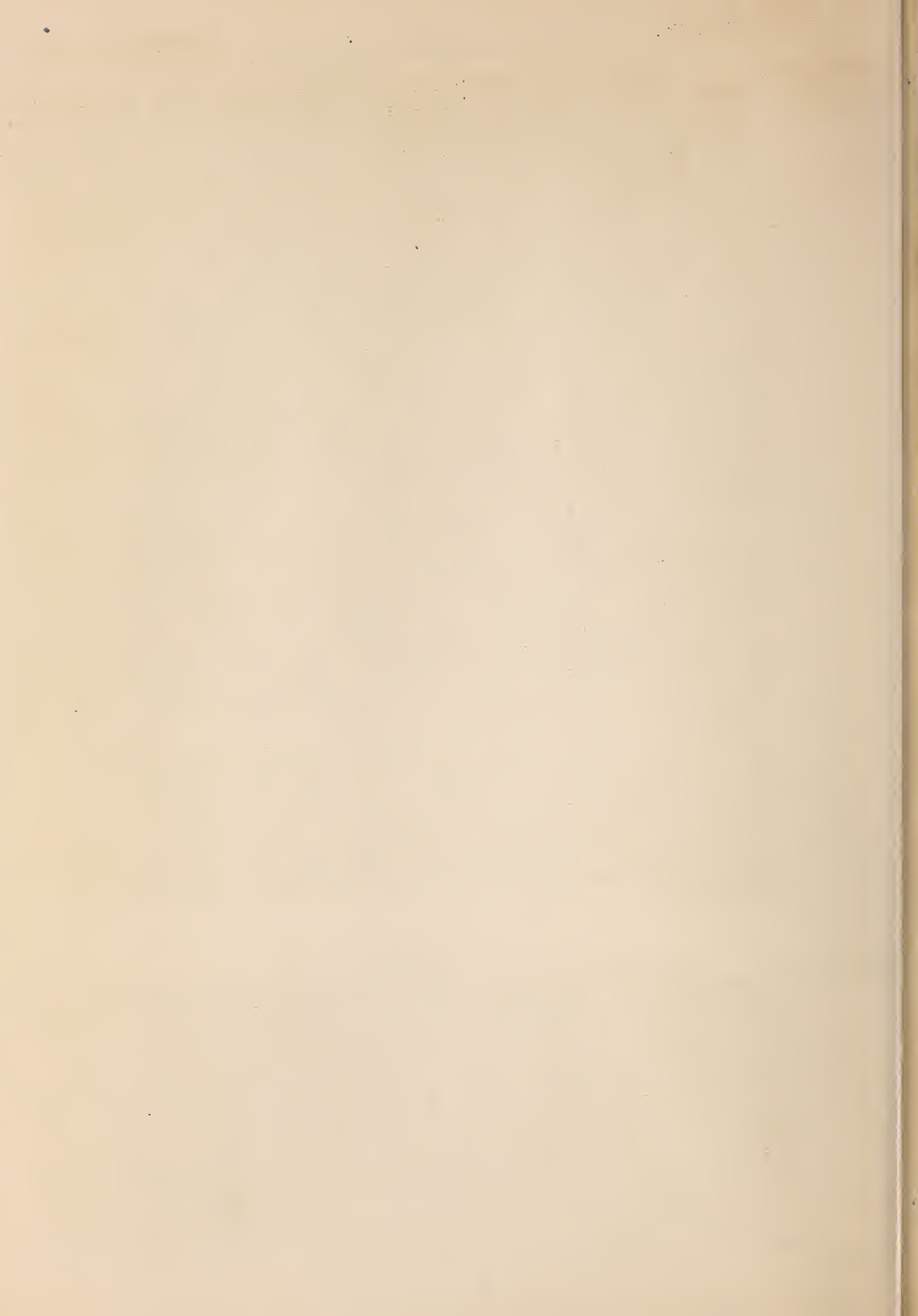
The Statist (London) for November 29 says: "The International Labor Office is about to undertake a statistical survey of labor conditions in the world's wool textile industry, and as a preliminary to this task an article reviewing economic conditions in the industry appears in the current issue of the International Labor Review. Though not so universally used as cotton, wool products furnish between one-fifth and one-sixth of the world's clothing demand, but the industrial demand is relatively small. Demand for wool products is more elastic than that for cotton goods because of the higher cost of the raw material, and diminished purchasing power results either in longer use or in the substitution of cheaper fabrics. As in the case of the cotton industry, the present world situation in the wool textile industry is in part a legacy of the war, though there was a definite pre-war movement toward self-sufficiency on the part of importing countries. Most significant in this connection has been the expansion of the industry in Italy, Australia, Japan, Canada, Spain, Hungary, Bulgaria, Rumania, Greece and Yugoslavia, as well as in certain South American countries, particularly Argentina, Ecuador and Brazil. Because of the effect on world trade, special mention is made of the growth of the wool textile industry in Japan, Australia and Italy. The Japanese wool textile industry has grown up practically since 1913; by 1927 the annual imports of wool had increased to 105,557,000 lbs. from 17,921,000 lbs., while the spindleage increased from 240,000 to 910,000. The country is gradually becoming self-supporting in woollens, and in a long view of the situation the conclusion is inevitable that imports will be confined, firstly, to raw wool, and, secondly, to certain special lines of cloth. The Australian industry received a strong impetus during the war years, and between 1913 and 1929 the number of factories increased from 22 to 50 and the number of workers from 5,000 to 9,000. Under the Bounties Act of 1907 bounties to the amount of 10,000 pounds yearly were payable on the export of tops, and resulted in an active trade, especially with Japan. Though the bounties were discontinued after the war, the export of tops continued to increase, from 496,000 lbs. in 1919 to 4,520,000 lbs. in 1926-27. Italy since the war has become an exporting country, and imports of wool products have been halved and furnish only 10 per cent of the consumption. Originally exports were directed towards the Balkans and the Near East, but within the past few years a brisk trade has been developed with India, South Africa and Argentina..."

## Section 3

Department of

Agriculture

An editorial in Scientific American for January says: "By continuing the 'slim silhouette' in women's fashions, dress designers are salting the gold mine which already has enriched purveyors of fat-reducing remedies, most of which are wholly worthless, some, indeed, being harmful. The Food, Drug, and Insecticide Administration of the Department of Agriculture states that 'No drug or mixture of drugs known to the medical profession can be offered for the promiscuous use of the public for reducing weight without introducing an element of danger.' In fact, the administration has record of a case in which death resulted from an overdose of a widely sold anti-fat concoction. Therefore, whatever your reasons for reducing, do not allow your reason to be seduced by lurid advertisements. Consult your physician and let him prescribe the remedy, if there is one for your particular case, and then follow his instructions conscientiously. It's safer!"





# Section 4

## MARKET QUOTATIONS

### Farm Products

Maine sacked Green Mountain potatoes ranged \$1.90-\$2.10 per 100 pounds in eastern cities; \$1.35-\$1.40 f.o.b. Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites \$1.35-\$1.40 carlot sales in Chicago; \$1.20-\$1.22½ f.o.b. Waupaca. New York Danish type cabbage \$18-\$23 bulk per ton in terminal markets; \$14 f.o.b. Rochester. Florida and South Carolina Pointed type \$1.25-\$2 per 1½-bushel hamper in the East. New York and midwestern sacked yellow onions \$1-\$1.50 per 100 pounds in city markets; 90¢ f.o.b. Rochester. Delaware and Maryland yellow sweet potatoes brought \$1.50-\$1.90 per bushel hamper in the East. New York McIntosh apples \$1.50-\$1.75; Rhode Island Greenings \$1.25-\$1.50 per bushel basket in New York City; and \$1.25 f.o.b. Rochester.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets declined 7 points to 8.91¢ per lb. On the same day one year ago the price stood at 16.58¢ per lb. New December future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 3 points to 9.67¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 5 points to 9.67¢.

Livestock prices: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers; steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$9.50 to \$14.25; cows, good and choice \$5.25 to \$7.50; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$8.50 to \$12.50; vealers, good and choice \$7.50 to \$10; feeder and stocker cattle; steers, good and choice \$7 to \$9; heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$7.60 to \$7.90; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$8 to \$8.15; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$7.50 to \$8.10 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$7.25 to \$8.50; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$5.50 to \$7.50.

Grain prices: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis 74¼ to 77¼¢; No.2 red winter St. Louis 82 to 83¢; No.2 hard winter Chicago 78¼¢; Kansas City 70¢; No.3 mixed corn Chicago 63¼ to 63¾¢; Minneapolis 54½ to 56½¢; Kansas City 56 to 59¢; No.3 yellow corn Chicago 63¾ to 64¾¢; Minneapolis 57½ to 58½¢; St. Louis 63 to 63¾¢; Kansas City 59 to 60½¢; No.3 white oats Chicago 31½ to 32¼¢; Minneapolis 27 1/8 to 28 1/8¢; St. Louis 32¾¢; Kansas City 31 to 32¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 30¢; 91 score, 29½¢; 90 score, 29¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 17½-19¢; Single Daisies, 17¼-17½¢; Young Americas, 17¾-18¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)



# DAILY DIGEST

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Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

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Vol. XXXIX, No. 72

Section 1

December 26, 1930.

## GOVERNMENT CONSTRUCTION FOR 1931

The Federal Government, during the calendar year 1931, will spend \$724,058,000 in construction work as an aid to employment, or more than twice as much as expended annually prior to the depression, President Hoover announced December 23.... There must be included in the expenditures, the President pointed out, the emergency appropriations for still further acceleration of public works authorized several days ago by Congress. This includes \$90,000,000 for highways and \$25,500,000 for rivers and harbors public works. Carrying out the provisions of the emergency fund Secretary of Agriculture Hyde apportioned \$80,000,000 for immediate use in Federal aid road construction. Apportionment was also made of \$3,000,000 for building of roads on public lands to be administered by agreement, either by the States or by the Bureau of Public Roads. According to the provisions of the emergency legislation, these funds are to be used by the States in place of State funds to match regular Federal-aid funds previously authorized and apportioned. (Journal of Commerce, Dec. 24.)

## TREASURY SURPLUS

Collection of \$73,637,357 in income tax on December 19, shifted the condition of the Treasury from a deficit of \$16,740,646 on the preceding day to a surplus of \$47,719,552. (Press, Dec. 23.)

## URUGUAY BUYS GRAINS

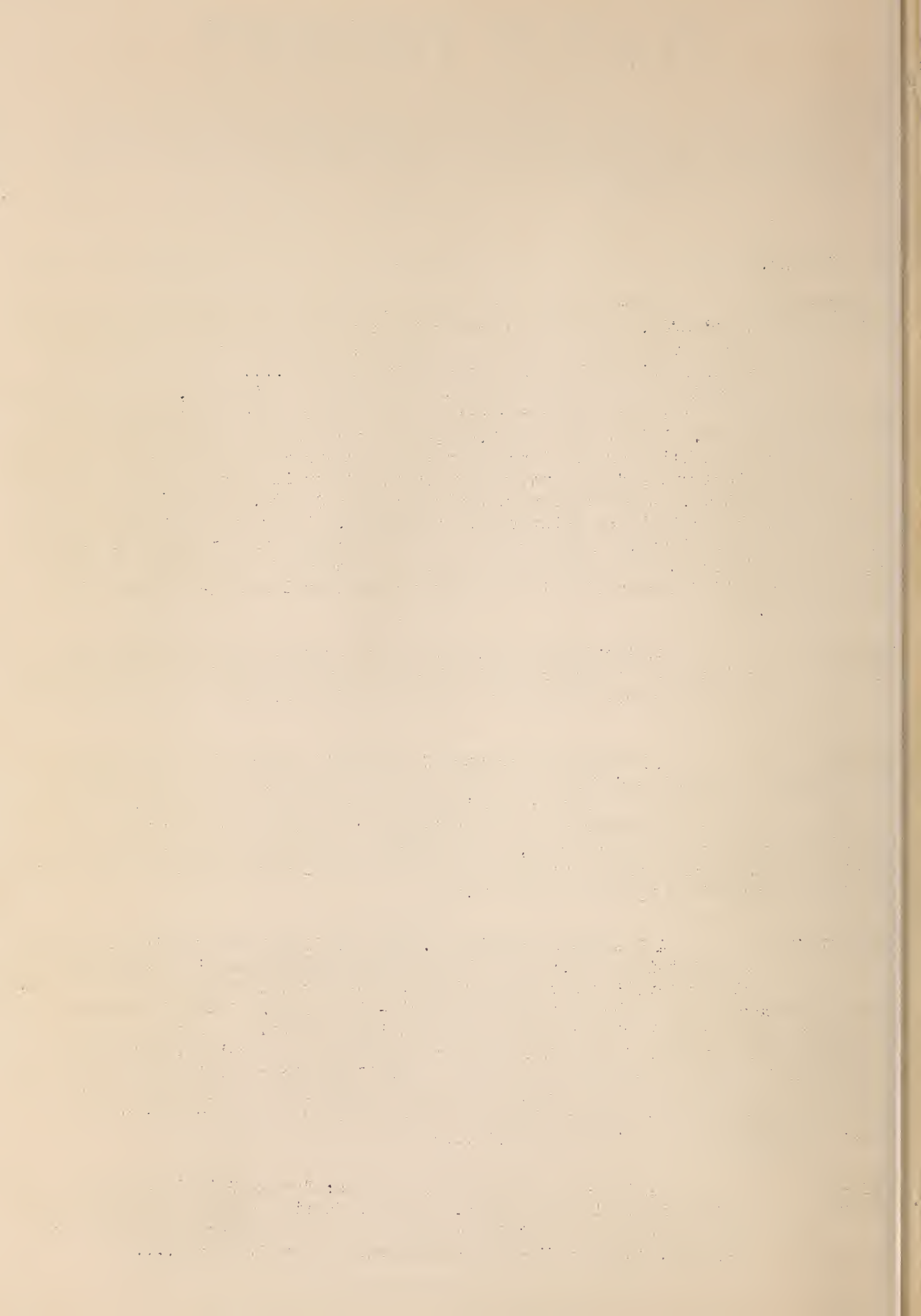
A Montevideo dispatch December 14 says: "The Uruguayan Government has definitely gone into the grain business this year and will have the exclusive selling of wheat and corn exports. Following a congressional authorization for governmental purchase of the exportable surplus of the wheat crop, the Chamber of Deputies has passed a bill authorizing the national administrative council to purchase directly from the farmers the entire exportable surplus of the corn."

## WHEAT PRICES

A Chicago dispatch Dec. 22 says: "The Government's intention to maintain the price of the present wheat crop at 'the present or a higher level' was reaffirmed Dec. 21 as foreign markets sank to depths that in some cases had not been reached in thirty-five years. While Government-sponsored agencies were buying enough wheat to hold the Chicago price 25 cents and more above other markets, George S. Milnor, president of the Grain Stabilization Corporation, issued a statement in which he said: 'Domestic conditions on the present crop do not justify lower prices, and this company will continue to follow the policy of handling such surplus market offerings as may be necessary in order to maintain the present or a higher level.'...."

## BRITISH TARIFFS

A London dispatch Dec. 22 says: "Great Britain became a free market Dec. 21 for cutlery, leather, fabric gloves and gas mantles, all products of industries which are suffering severely from unemployment, when the McKenna safeguarding tariffs lapsed...."





## Section 2

## Cream Cheese

"Cream cheese made by a new process at a New York State agricultural experiment station has been shipped across country, six days in the mail without refrigeration during warm weather, and arrived in good condition." (Science News Letter, December.)

## Helium as Preservative

"Helium as a food preservative has been suggested after successful experiments. Orange juice in containers was kept for six months, appearing to be as fresh as in the original form. No experiments have as yet been made with meat, but to do so is not improbable. Sponge cake was preserved for two months, as fresh as when it came from the oven. Helium tends to exclude other gases such as oxygen, nitrogen and carbon dioxide and thus has a tendency to prevent growth of bacteria and oxidation." (N.Y.Herald Tribune, Nov. 30.)

## Iowa Cities

An editorial in The Davenport Democrat for December 9 says: "No question is asked of the editor oftener than the one as to the population of various Iowa cities. From the census department now comes a quite complete bulletin on this year's census in Iowa. It shows some interesting things. For instance, we have 21 cities in Iowa with a population of more than 10,000. None of them, however, are in the 30,000 bracket. Ottumwa is eighth with 28,075, and Dubuque seventh with 41,679. There are no Iowa cities fitting into that gap of over 13,000 difference between Ottumwa and Dubuque....Economists look for a considerable accession in the back-to-the-farm movement as a result of changed conditions in the cities, and it may be that the next decade will show more farms and more people farming small tracts than did the last one. Recently the tendency has been the other way, but it is not likely to continue indefinitely."

## Peach Consumption

An editorial in The Pacific Rural Press for December 6 says: "To stimulate thought and discussion some opinions and suggestions are offered. First of all we do not believe that the consumption of peaches has been pushed as far as it can be pushed. As we have said many times we believe there should be a Peach Institute created for the purpose of improving the quality, sale and distribution of canned peaches. ...If a peach control body, adopted as a policy the plan of removing the current surplus by tree pulling and peach dropping, it would be possible to cut the supply to fit the need, and make possible a living price to the producer and an acceptable price to the consumer. This is what manufacturing businesses try to do. They seek to fit the supply to fair demand....Wouldn't it be wise to use Uncle Sam? Have him make a study? Suggest all the plans to him. Let him be the neutral and sympathetic chairman of a conference in which there would perforce be many diverse opinions...."

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### Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

#### Farm Products

Dec. 23.--Livestock prices: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers; steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$9.75 to \$14.25; cows, good and choice \$5.25 to \$7.50; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$8.25 to \$12.25; vealers, good and choice \$8 to \$10.50; feeder and stocker cattle; steers, good and choice \$7 to \$9; heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$7.50 to \$7.85; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$8 to \$8.15; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$7.50 to \$8.15 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$7.25 to \$8.50; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$5.50 to \$7.50.

Grain prices: No.1 dark northern spring wheat Minneapolis  $73\frac{1}{2}$  to  $76\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.2 red winter St. Louis 82 to 83¢; No.2 hard winter Kansas City 59 to 61¢; No.3 mixed corn Chicago  $63\frac{1}{4}$  to  $63\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Minneapolis 54 to 56¢; Kansas City 56 to 58¢; No.3 yellow corn Chicago  $64\frac{1}{2}$  to  $65\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Minneapolis 57 to 58¢; St. Louis  $63\frac{1}{2}$  to  $64\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City 58 to 60¢; No.3 white oats Chicago  $31\frac{1}{2}$  to  $32\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Minneapolis 27 to 28¢; St. Louis 33¢.

Sacked Green Mountain potatoes from Maine brought \$1.75-\$2.10 per 100 pounds in eastern cities; mostly \$1.35 f.o.b. Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites \$1.35-\$1.45 carlot sales in Chicago; few \$1.15-\$1.20 f.o.b. Waupaca. Texas Bliss Triumphs \$2 per bushel hamper in Pittsburgh. New York Danish type cabbage \$18-\$23 bulk per ton in terminal markets; \$13-\$15 f.o.b. Rochester. Florida Pointed type \$1-\$2 per  $1\frac{1}{2}$ -bushel hamper in the East. Delaware and Maryland yellow sweet potatoes ranged \$1.25-\$1.85 per bushel hamper in city markets. Tennessee Nancy Halls \$1.15-\$1.25 in Chicago. New York and Midwestern sacked yellow onions brought \$1-\$1.40 per 100 pounds in consuming centers; mostly 90¢ f.o.b. Rochester. New York Rhode Island Greening apples \$1.25-\$1.50 per bushel hamper in New York City; McIntosh \$1.50-\$1.75; Baldwins \$1.50 f.o.b. Rochester.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets advanced 7 points to 8.96¢ per lb. On the same date last year the price stood at 16.62¢. New January future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 10 points to 9.72¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange advanced 9 points to 9.74¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score,  $29\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; 91 score, 29¢; 90 score, 28¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats,  $17\frac{1}{2}$ ¢-19¢; Single Daisies,  $17\frac{1}{2}$ ¢- $17\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Young Americas,  $17\frac{3}{4}$ ¢-18¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)





# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XXXIX, No. 73

Section 1

December 27, 1930.

## DROUGHT RELIEF

Secretary Hyde said yesterday Congress would be asked to appropriate the full \$45,000,000 authorized for drought relief. He said applications for aid from the fund would be taken up in "the priority of their urgency." (Press, Dec. 27.)

## CORN SUGAR REGULATION

A special dispatch to The New York Times to-day says: "Removal of the twenty-five-year-old restriction on the use of corn sugar as an ingredient in prepared foods was announced yesterday by Secretary Hyde, who said that the potential market for corn through sugar was estimated as high as 100,000,000 bushels a year. The Secretary issued a ruling holding that the use of the product in the packing, preparation or processing of any article of food in which sugar is a recognized element need not be declared on the label. 'I believe,' declared Mr. Hyde, 'that this modification removes an undeserved stigma from corn sugar; that it harms or deceives no one; that it weakens neither the Federal food and drugs act nor its administration; that it is a just recognition of modern progress in refining, and that it will aid in some degree in reestablishing the economic balance of agricultural products.' Under the previous policy of the department wherever corn sugar was used as an ingredient it had to be declared on the label of all products except ice cream and confections. ..."

## BANK INVESTI- GATIONS

J. F. Essary, writing in The Baltimore Sun of to-day, says: "Failure or suspension of hundreds of banking institutions during the last six months, some of them national banks, and even more members of the Federal Reserve System, will be subjected to a searching investigation by a special committee of the Senate, which will begin hearings on January 15. Senator Glass, of Virginia, chairman of this committee and author of the resolution under which the committee will function, is authority for the statement that the Senate group will insist on bringing to light the reasons why hundreds of millions of deposits and other assets of these institutions have been dissipated or indefinitely tied up..."

## MUSCLE SHOALS

A policy of retaining in private hands the development and distribution of electric power was endorsed by an overwhelming majority and a recommendation that the Muscle Shoals plant should be sold or leased was approved in a power referendum conducted by the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, the results of which were announced yesterday. (N.Y. Times, Dec. 27.)

## ARGENTINA TO BUILD ROADS

A Buenos Aires dispatch states that the Provisional Government of Argentina will invite bids soon for construction of 900 miles of hard-surfaced toll roads between Buenos Aires and Cordoba, passing through Rosario, and between Buenos Aires and Bahia Blanca. One hundred and twenty days will be allowed for the submission of bids in order that United States and European companies may compete, according to the report.



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Section 2

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**Motor Truck Utilization** Motor trucks are making rapid inroads into railroad tonnage of perishables. At Los Angeles the equivalent of 21,450 carloads arrived by motor truck in 1929, while railroads carried but 17,044. At Newark, 29.8 per cent of all produce arrived by truck. At Denver 21.4 per cent, with ratio growing in practically all major markets. (Business Week, Dec. 3.)

**Wheat Surplus** An editorial in The Dakota Farmer for December 15 says: "The wheat surplus is disappearing, in fact, the day is dawning when the much discussed wheat surplus will really prove to be more apparent than real. At least these are the deductions that can be gathered from an uncompleted survey being made by the Farmers National Grain Corporation. On the theory that large visible supplies of wheat may be due, in part, to unusually small quantities of flour in the hands of bakers; jobbers and home consumers, the national cooperative bases its survey particularly on these points. Preliminary reports indicate, according to C. E. Huff, president, that not only are large bakers and jobbers holding considerably below normal supplies of flour, but that the average rural home consumer, usually in possession of a winter's supply of flour at this time of year, is using breadstuffs on a more or less hand-to-mouth basis. Such stocks are probably relatively lower than ever before. Other reports indicate the use of wheat for livestock feeding on a much broader scale than previously had been believed likely. Reports from stockholders covering Northwestern, Middlewestern and Southwestern States are that the use of wheat for livestock feed is steadily increasing."

**Wool Sales Policy** A Boston dispatch December 22 states that the National Wool Marketing Corporation December 20 announced a new selling policy which it said would make domestic cooperative wool a better value than foreign wool to the American consumer. The corporation's statement was: 'The cooperative wool will be sold not only at values corresponding to importing parity of similar foreign wool but also at prices which definitely make wool raised by the United States wool growers better value to the purchaser than similar foreign wool. Regardless of the cost of foreign wool, these values will not only be met but will be priced to make the cooperative wool better value than the foreign wool to the American consumer.'

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Section 3

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**Department of Agriculture** An editorial in The American Fertilizer for December 20 says: "The United States Department of Agriculture has issued a preliminary report of its world survey of staple lengths of cotton. It is an interesting little pamphlet, with much useful information for our cotton growers. It discloses the commanding position which the United States holds in the production of the world's cotton crop. We grow about 60 per cent of the whole--more than three times the production of our nearest competitor--India..."

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# Section 4 MARKET QUOTATIONS

## Farm Products

Dec. 26--Livestock prices: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers; steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$9.75 to \$14.25; cows, good and choice \$5.25 to \$7.50; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$8.25 to \$12.25; vealers, good and choice \$9 to \$11.50; feeder and stocker cattle; steers, good and choice \$7 to \$9; heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$7.50 to \$7.90; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$8.25 to \$8.50; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$7.75 to \$8.50; (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$7.50 to \$8.75; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$5.50 to \$7.50.

Grain prices: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis  $73\frac{1}{2}$  to  $76\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.2 red winter St. Louis 81 to 82¢; Kansas City  $74\frac{1}{2}$  to  $75\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.2 hard winter Kansas City 70¢; No.3 mixed corn Chicago  $62\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; Minneapolis 52 to 54¢; Kansas City  $52\frac{1}{2}$  to 55¢; No.3 yellow corn Chicago  $62\frac{1}{2}$  to 64¢; Minneapolis 55 to 56¢; St. Louis 62 to  $62\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City  $54\frac{1}{2}$  to 57¢; No.3 white oats Chicago  $30\frac{3}{4}$  to  $31\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Minneapolis  $26\frac{3}{8}$  to  $27\frac{3}{8}$ ¢; St. Louis 33 to  $33\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; Kansas City  $32\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

Sacked Green Mountain potatoes from northern Maine jobbing in city markets at \$1.75-\$2.15 per 100 pounds; mostly \$1.35 f.o.b. shipping points. Northern Round Whites stronger in Chicago carlot market at \$1.40-\$1.50, with Wisconsin f.o.b. sales at \$1.15-\$1.25 per 100 pounds. Florida Spaulding Rose new potatoes \$2.50-\$3 per bushel hamper in few markets. New York Danish-type cabbage \$18-\$25 bulk per ton in city markets; \$13-\$15 f.o.b. western New York points. Northern Danish weak in Chicago at 60¢-75¢ per 100-pound sack. Florida pointed type jobbing \$1-\$2 per  $1\frac{1}{2}$ -bu. hamper in several cities. Texas lettuce crates \$1.75-\$2.75, top of \$3 in Kansas City. Delaware and Maryland bushel hampers yellow sweetpotatoes jobbing at \$1.25-\$2 in terminals. New Jersey stock \$1.50-\$2.50, and Tennessee Nancy Halls bringing mostly \$1.25-\$1.50. New York and midwestern yellow onions ranging \$1-\$1.60 per 100-pound sack in large markets, with low level of 65¢-80¢ in Chicago. The 50-pound bags brought generally 40¢-90¢ in consuming centers. Western New York f.o.b. sales at 90¢-95¢ per 100-pound sack, with southwestern Michigan points at 83¢-90¢. New York Rhode Island Greening apples jobbing at \$1.25-\$1.75 per bushel basket in city markets, with Baldwins ranging \$1.40-\$1.65. F.o.b. sales in western New York at \$1.35 per bushel of Rhode Island Greenings or \$1.40 for Wagners.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets declined 5 points to 8.91¢ per lb. On the corresponding day one year ago the price was 16.74¢. New January future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 7 points to 9.65¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 10 points to 9.64¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)



# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XXXIX, No. 74

Section 1

December 29, 1930.

## THE CORN

### SUGAR RULING

A Chicago dispatch to the press of December 28 says: "Spokesmen for two middle western corn producers' groups and for an organization of corn products manufacturers expressed gratification over yesterday's ruling by Secretary of Agriculture Hyde removing restrictions on corn sugar merchandising...Earl Smith, president of the Illinois Agricultural Association, said it has been estimated there was an outlet for 6,000,000 bushels of corn annually in the making of refined sugar for food sweetening. Charles Hearst, president of the Iowa Farm Bureau Federation, said the ruling 'opened another outlet for corn which meets the general and hearty approval of the farmers of Iowa.'..."

## LEGGE PROPOSES

### WHEAT EMBARGO

Placing of a temporary embargo on wheat importations if world prices continue to slump below domestic quotations to a point permitting imports of Canadian wheat was suggested to members of the Senate committee on agriculture December 24 by Chairman Legge of the Farm Board, according to the press of December 25.

## STAMP ON

### WORLD RECOVERY

The United States will be the first country in the world to recover from the present world-wide depression, Sir Josiah Stamp, one of England's most eminent economists, predicted yesterday in a radio address on the "Economic Outlook for 1931" broadcast from London over the Columbia network, according to the press to-day. "Judging by the experience of past depressions," he said, "we can hardly expect the worst to be over until April or May next, and then a recovery will be halting and slow and not gain much momentum until the beginning of 1932. On the signs of the present, I think that substantial recovery will come from your side first. What we need, of course, is to keep our fundamental conditions rightly framed up so that recovery will find us ready for action as it gains momentum.....!"

## THE NATION'S

### HEALTH

The best health conditions ever known in the United States and Canada prevailed during the first eleven months of 1930, statisticians of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, basing their findings upon mortality statistics of 19,000,000 industrial policy holders in the company, announced through the Metropolitan's information service yesterday. They found that no widespread outbreak of contagious or infectious diseases were reported, that a break was indicated in the long series of annual cancer mortality gains, and that "the single unfavorable item in the 1930 mortality statistics will be a considerable rise in the suicide death rate." (Press, Dec. 29)

## TRAVEL TRADE

The world travel bill for 1930 was approximately \$7,500,000,-- 000 and two-thirds of this amount or \$5,000,000,000 was sent by Americans at home and abroad and visitors to this country, according to a survey of the American Automobile Association made public December 21.





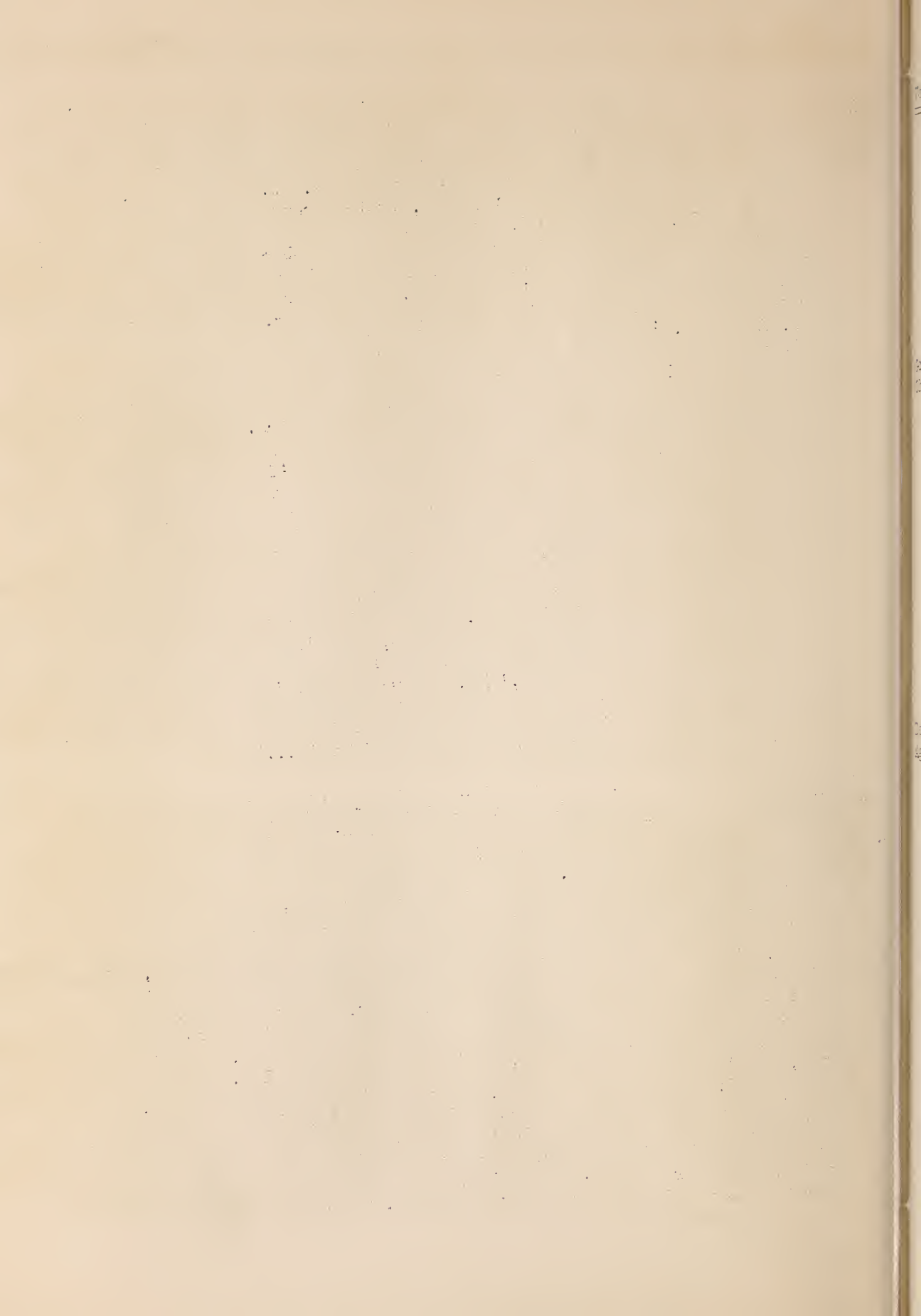
## Section 2

Citrus  
Fruit In-  
dustry

An editorial in The Florida Times-Union for December 20 says: "With particular reference to fruit shipped to foreign countries it is worth while to call attention to what is being done in California in the matter of cooperation with exporters in seeing that fruit offered for export meets standard grade specifications. W. F. Allewelt, chief of the California Bureau of Shipping, wrote recently, in The United States Daily, that 'To assist growers, packers and shippers, in developing the shipment of California fruits and vegetables to foreign markets, arrangements have been completed by the State Department of Agriculture for the use of a new and simplified form of Federal-State grade certificate at the ports of San Francisco and Los Angeles. This,' says Mr. Allewelt, 'has been desired particularly by exporters in San Francisco for use on small lots of several different products shipped to the Orient. It also will be available, however, for shipments to any other foreign markets, including Europe, South and Central America, Australia and New Zealand. The more detailed certificate formerly used also will be available and may continue in general use for markets outside of the Orient.' Mr. Allewelt also observes that 'The important and rapidly increasing export movements of fruits and vegetables is of great value to the industry, and holds much promise for the future. It not only offers profitable returns to growers and shippers,' says Mr. Allewelt, 'but indirectly, by taking surplus quantities out of this country, adds very materially to the prices received for supplies marketed in the United States.' These observations apply just as well to Florida as they do to California. Another important fact stated by the California official above quoted is this, that 'The future of this business depends entirely upon the delivery of satisfactory products in good condition. In the past,' Mr. Allewelt adds, 'many difficulties and losses have resulted from export shipments of products not suitable in quality or condition for the markets to which they were sent.' This, also, applies in Florida as well as in California..."

New England  
Agricul-  
tural  
Schools

J. L. Hypes, Connecticut Agricultural College, writing on "The Vocational Stability of Connecticut Farmers" in Social Forces for December, says: "The secondary schools of agriculture in areas like southern New England face real difficulties both of an administrative and a pedagogical nature. For example, it is a question whether the average secondary school of vocational agriculture, as represented by the usual agricultural department in the high schools, is properly organized to give the urban youth planning to farm adequate farm experience. It must be recognized that, unlike many other vocations, family life and vocational activities in farming are closely related; the same is true of the integration of capital, labor, and management. Thus, the trainee of urban origin needs to be connected with a productive farm business on a full-time basis in order that he may gain, in a realistic way, proficiency in its repetitive operative activities, experience in its organization and management, and adequate concepts of the standards of living and other social factors imposed by it. Recognizing the unique value of apprenticeship education, some of the dominion governments of the British Empire, as a phase of their land settlement policy, and as a matter of self-protection, are requiring as a prerequisite to government aid to immigrant farm settlers, a year's satisfactory



apprenticeship under successful native farmers. This requirement applies to all prospective settlers, whether or not they have had practical farm experience in their home land. If, on the other hand, these secondary school departments of agriculture secure as students, bona fide farmboys, which most of them profess as their major aim, it is a serious question whether or not they are trying 'to teach' them what they already know, especially the repetitive operative skills. This query seems especially pertinent when we have in mind farmboys who are entering the difficult entry types of farming..."

Grange in  
Ohio

An editorial in The Ohio Farmer for December 20 says: "The Ohio State Grange in its splendid session at Marion last week upheld all the traditions of the Grange for constructive thought and action. In fact one looks to the Grange in Ohio to lead thought along sound lines in taxation and legislation, regardless of attempts made in the urban press to confound the harmonious working relationship between agriculture and other organizations in Ohio. Then, too, the splendid interest in the fundamentals of the Grange organization is a sign of progress....Ohio farmers are becoming more convinced each day of the value of thorough organization to their business and their community life and the Grange is carrying its share of the load. We congratulate the Ohio State Grange and its membership on the progress so evident during the past year and the bright hopes for continued progress in the future."

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### Section 3

Department of  
Agriculture

An editorial in The Washington Post for December 28 says: "Secretary Hyde's ruling on corn sugar may prove to be of far-reaching importance. The ruling is merely an administrative change which permits corn sugar to be used in the packing and preparation of foods without being designated as such. But its effect will be to stimulate the corn sugar industry, and it may tend to relieve agricultural overproduction....It is still uncertain how much the corn sugar industry will add to the general surplus, but it is estimated that 100,000,000 bushels of corn may be converted to sugar here. On that basis, the domestic output of sugar might be doubled within a relatively short time. Whether or not the new corn product will cut into imports or the domestic beet industry remains to be seen."

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# Section 4

## MARKET QUOTATIONS

### Farm Products

Dec. 29.--Grain prices: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis  $73\frac{1}{2}$  to  $76\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.2 red winter St.Louis  $80\frac{1}{2}$  to  $81$ ¢; No.3 mixed corn Chicago  $60\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Minneapolis  $52\frac{1}{2}$  to  $54\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City  $52\frac{1}{2}$  to  $55$ ¢; No.3 yellow corn Chicago  $61\frac{1}{4}$  to  $63\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Minneapolis  $55\frac{1}{2}$  to  $56\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; St. Louis  $61\frac{1}{2}$  to  $63$ ¢; Kansas City  $55$  to  $57$ ¢; No.3 white oats Chicago  $30\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; Minneapolis  $26\frac{1}{4}$  to  $27\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; Kansas City  $32\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

Livestock prices: Heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) \$7.50 to \$7.90; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$8.25 to \$8.50; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$7.75 to \$8.50 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations).

Maine sacked Green Mountain potatoes jobbing at \$1.75-\$2.35 per 100 pounds in city markets; firm at \$1.40 f.o.b. Aroostook County points. Northern Round Whites steady at \$1.40-\$1.50 in Chicago carlot market; higher at Wisconsin shipping points at \$1.25-\$1.30, sacked per 100 pounds. Florida Spaulding Rose potatoes \$3 per bushel hamper in Washington. New York Danish-type cabbage steady at \$18-\$25 bulk per ton in large terminals; slightly stronger f.o.b. western New York at \$14-\$15. Northern Danish-type steady in St. Louis at \$15-\$18 per ton; firmer at shipping points in southeastern Wisconsin at \$9-\$10. Florida  $1\frac{1}{2}$ -bushel hampers of new stock jobbing at \$1.25-\$2 in consuming centers, with lettuce crates of Texas cabbage at \$2-\$3. Delaware and Maryland yellow sweetpotatoes jobbing at \$1.50-\$1.75 per bushel hamper in Baltimore. New Jersey stock generally \$1.75-\$2.75, and Tennessee Nancy Halls at \$1-\$1.50 per bushel. New York yellow onions bringing \$1-\$1.20 per 100-pound sack in city markets, with midwestern yellows at \$1-\$1.60, except in Chicago where low mark of 65¢-\$1 prevailed. The 50-pound sacks from Middle West ruled 40¢-\$1. Shippers in western New York reported too few sales to establish a price; southwestern Michigan reported 100-pound sacks of yellows returning 80¢-88¢, with 50-pounds at 43¢-45¢. Rhode Island Greening apples from New York State jobbing at \$1.25-\$1.75 per bushel basket in terminal markets, with Baldwins at \$1.40-\$1.65. New York f.o.b. sales of best Baldwins at \$1.40-\$1.50 per bushel.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets advanced 2 points to 8.93¢ per lb. On the same day last season the price was 16.70¢. New January future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange were unchanged at 9.65¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange advanced 1 point to 9.65¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 29¢; 91 score,  $28\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; 90 score, 28¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats,  $17\frac{1}{2}$ -19¢; Single Daisies,  $17\frac{1}{4}$ - $17\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Young Americas,  $17\frac{3}{4}$ -18¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)



# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. XXXIX, No. 75

Section 1

December 30, 1930.

## HOUSE GROUP VOTES DROUGHT FUND

A subcommittee of the House appropriations committee yesterday voted to appropriate \$45,000,000 for drought relief in accordance with the authorization recently approved by the President, according to the press to-day. Action was taken by the subcommittee after hearing Secretary of Agriculture Hyde and others. The report says: "Following the meeting Chairman Wood, of the appropriations committee, announced that the full committee would approve the \$45,000,000 fund when it meets Monday morning and that the House may act on the measure the same day.

"Secretary Hyde told the subcommittee the Department of Agriculture would be prepared to go ahead with the distribution of the fund within a week after it is appropriated. However, he does not expect any considerable number of applications for loans to come in before February 1...."

## EMERGENCY RELIEF WORK

Work on \$800,000,000 of construction projects of a public and semi-public character, designed to create employment, can be started within the next few weeks, Colonel Arthur Woods, chairman of the President's Emergency Committee for Employment announced yesterday, according to to-day's press. The estimate was based on reports from all sections of the country to Franklin T. Miller, head of the committee's public works section.

## CORN SUGAR EXPANSION

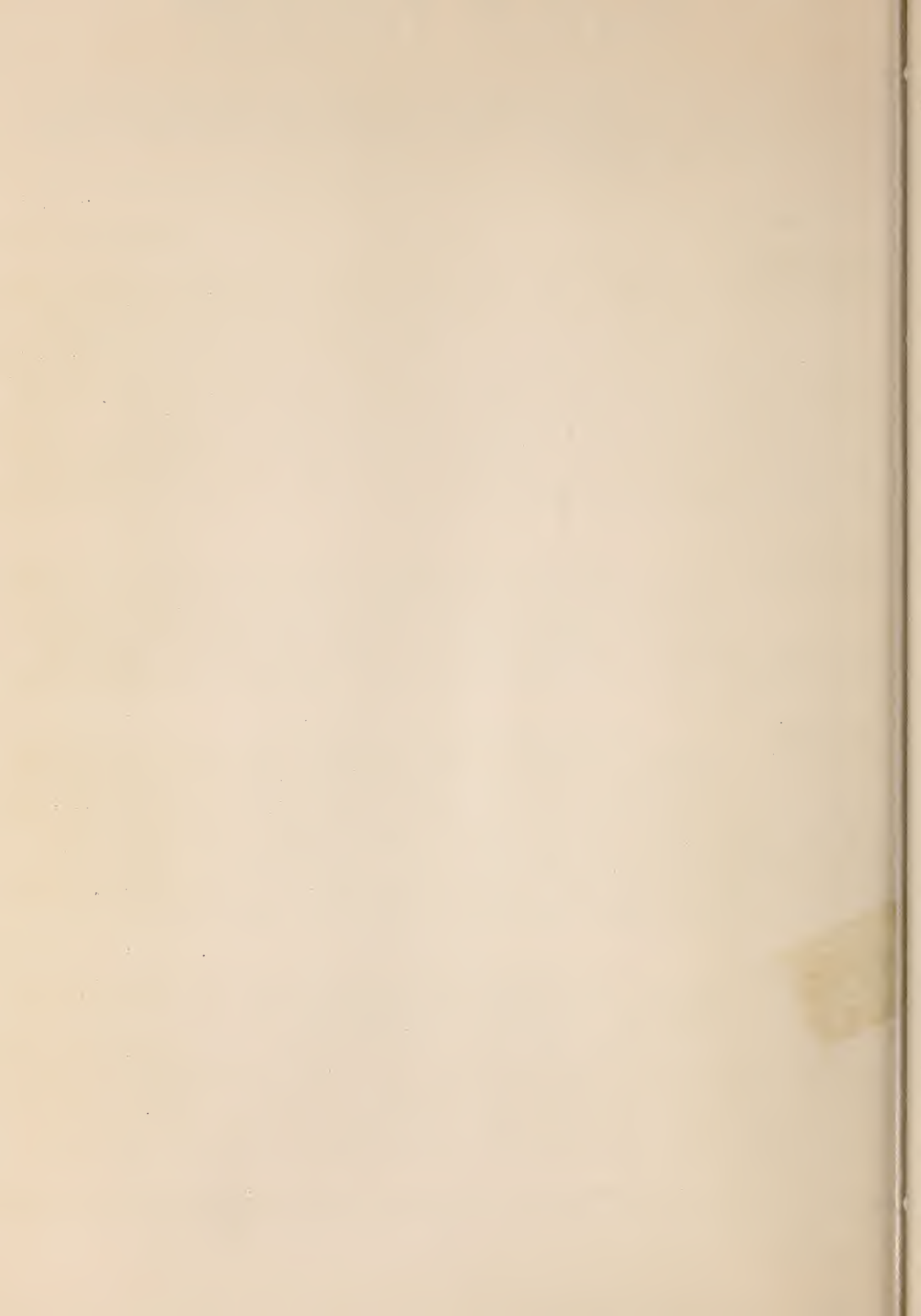
The New York Times to-day says: "As a result of the recent decision of Arthur M. Hyde, Secretary of Agriculture, removing the restriction on the use of refined corn sugar in prepared foods, the Corn Products Refining Company plans immediately to double its output of this product, of which it is manufacturing 400,000 pounds daily....To do this the company intends to double the capacity of its Kansas City plant and to build another plant at Pekin, Ill., at a cost of several million dollars, it was announced. This decision, it is believed, will mean an increase of from 15,000,000 to 20,000,000 bushels in the consumption of corn in the coming year..."

## MILLIKAN ON EVOLUTION

A Cleveland dispatch to-day reports: "The latest array of argument, backed by his most recent researches in the realm of the cosmic ray, to prove his contention that the universe is not doomed to run itself down but is, on the contrary, like a clock being everlastingly wound up by 'a Creator constantly on the job,' was presented at Cleveland last night by Dr. Robert A. Millikan, physicist. A scientific belief in evolution and progress does not necessarily imply disbelief in religion, Doctor Millikan told a gathering of 5,000 of America's most distinguished scientists, at the official opening of the annual convention of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

"As retiring president of the association Doctor Millikan gave the principal address of the day, on the subject of 'Atomic Disintegration and Atomic Synthesis.'

...





## Section 2

Business  
Situation

Theodore M. Knappen, interviewing C. A. Stone, chairman of the board of Stone & Webster, Inc., writes under the title "Coming Prosperity Will Be On a New Basis" in The Magazine of Wall Street for December 27. He quotes Mr. Stone as saying in part: "In some respects I think we shall have to go back to 1893 for a parallel to the present depression. While it did not at first seem, outside the stock market, to be so severe or devastating as the setback of 1920-21 this begins to have the indications of longer duration. The downward plunge of commodity prices has not been so abrupt, and our manufacturers, generally speaking, did not have the grave problem of huge inventories and wholesale cancellations of orders that were so disturbing ten years ago. Neither is the agricultural situation so acute now as then, notwithstanding the effects of an unparalleled drought in certain regions and the low prices of such staples as wheat and cotton. Many factors in the agricultural field are more hopeful than they were ten years ago. This year the farmers do not have to deal with an inflation of farm land prices and wild speculation. They have been encouraged by the sympathetic and substantial support the Federal Government has rendered them through the Farm Board. The distress of the drought-stricken regions is about to be alleviated by special Federal financing, and the acceleration of public expenditures on highways and waterways will locally stimulate business and give employment to surplus farm labor. Ten years ago agriculture was at the beginning of a painful readjustment from the inflation enforced by war measures. It also faced the consequences of the overthrow of the Malthusian theory that population would continuously tend to outrun the food supply. Declining birth rates in most of the more highly civilized nations and the marvelously increasing efficiency in agriculture, particularly in the United States, together with the addition of extensive new areas of agricultural production have made the world's food problem rather one of too much than too little. Instead of being crushed by the readjustment American agriculture has virtually conquered it, and has become, according to the Director of Research in the Department of Agriculture, the most efficient in the world. In 1921 our speculation frenzy had been chiefly in commodities and real estate. This time it was mainly in securities. Even conservative investment varies profoundly from its former course. An unprecedentedly large proportion of the money invested by the public in the last few years has been in stocks, as compared with real estate and bonds. This fact has left vast numbers now exposed to the trials of waning stock values, as well as curtailment of income. As often happens, a permanent good will come out of this present evil. It promotes careful scrutiny of American business enterprises, now so largely in corporate hands..."

Corn Sugar  
Demand

The Wall St. Journal for December 29 says: "Modification by the Secretary of Agriculture of the ruling prohibiting the use of corn sugar in preparation of foods, unless the foods were so labeled, forecasts an eventual increase in the consumption of corn by 20,000,000 bushels, according to leading corn products refining interests, who consider this estimate conservative. On the basis of 23 to 25 pounds of refined corn sugar obtained from a bushel of corn weighing 56 pounds the industry anticipates an increase in demand for corn sugar of about



500,000,000 pounds. At the present time, the corn products industry consumes from 75,000,000 to 100,000,000 pounds of corn annually, dependent upon business conditions. Therefore, if the increase in the demand for corn sugar develops to the extent that leaders in the industry foresee, demand for corn by the industry will increase 20% to 26%..."

#### Cow Testing

An editorial in The Farmer for December 20 says: "We learn from various sources that the testing of cows for butterfat production has fallen off very heavily this year. This is not a local condition, but general. It is natural and very necessary that expenses be scrutinized carefully in times such as we are passing through at present, but the economy of discontinuing cow testing operations is very doubtful, except possibly for the dairyman who has had one or more complete yearly tests on his herd and therefore knows the capabilities of each one of his cows. For others, however, it is more important than ever to check up on the cows because the best kind of economy lies in culling out the unprofitable producers....Means have recently been provided in Minnesota whereby every dairyman in the State can get testing service at the rate of \$15 per year for ten cows or less and \$1 per year for each cow over ten. We refer to the Minnesota State-wide Cow Testing Association which is being operated by the University of Minnesota on a strictly cost basis. We urge our readers to take advantage of it."

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### Section 3

#### Department of Agriculture

An editorial in Farm and Ranch for December 13 says: "The farm women of the Southwest, led by enthusiastic and capable home demonstration agents, have provided food for three squares a day on thousands of farms. The records made in some sections are almost astonishing. Farm families that have in times past gone into the winter with but little food on their shelves are this year fully supplied with some to spare. Visits to the bank or to the merchant for the money with which to buy food supplies to carry the family over until another harvest will be rare in some communities. Down in southeast Texas in eight counties there have been canned and preserved more than 1,000,000 containers of food. Pantry shelves and cellars are loaded with canned chicken, canned beef of various cuts, pickles, vegetables of all kinds, fruits, preserves and jellies. Some are prepared to serve seven or eight course dinners without going to the grocery or the market for anything except sugar, salt and flour. Similar reports are being received from other sections of the Southwest, including Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Louisiana and New Mexico. The significance of this work on the part of the Home Demonstration Department of the Extension Service is just beginning to be understood by merchants and bankers. Bankers find that there are fewer risky loans and merchants will soon see results in the sale of home equipment, lumber, cement, clothing and dry-goods. Farm families who have produced and canned a year's supply of food, who supplement it with chickens, eggs and dairy products will live well this winter and enter the new season with a smaller burden of debt than ever before, or none at all...."





# Section 4 MARKET QUOTATIONS

## Farm Products

Dec. 30.--Livestock prices: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers; steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$9.50 to \$14.25; cows, good and choice \$5.25 to \$7.50; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$8.25 to \$12; vealers, good and choice \$9.25 to \$11.50; feeder and stocker cattle; steers, good and choice \$7 to \$9; heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$7.35 to \$7.70; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$8.25 to \$8.50; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$7.75 to \$8.50 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$7.25 to \$8.50; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$5.50 to \$7.50.

Grain prices: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis  $73\frac{1}{2}$  to  $76\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.2 red winter St. Louis 81¢; No.2 hard winter Chicago  $78\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City 69 to  $69\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.3 mixed corn Chicago  $60\frac{1}{2}$  to 61¢; Minneapolis 51 to 53¢; Kansas City  $52\frac{1}{2}$  to  $54\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.3 yellow corn Chicago  $61\frac{1}{2}$  to  $63\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Minneapolis 54 to 55¢; St. Louis 62 to 63¢; Kansas City 55 to 57¢; No.3 white oats Chicago  $31\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Minneapolis  $25\frac{1}{2}$  to  $26\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City  $31\frac{1}{2}$  to 32¢.

Maine sacked Green Mountain potatoes ranged \$1.95-\$2.10 per 100 pounds in eastern cities; \$1.40-\$1.45 f.o.b. Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites \$1.45-\$1.65 carlot sales in Chicago; mostly \$1.25-\$1.30 f.o.b. Waupaca. New York Danish type cabbage \$20-\$22 bulk per ton in terminal markets; \$20-\$25 in Cincinnati and \$14-\$15 f.o.b. Rochester. Florida Pointed type \$1.25-\$2 per  $1\frac{1}{2}$ -bushel hamper in city markets. New York and Midwestern sacked yellow onions \$1-\$1.55 per 100 pounds in consuming centers; 90¢ f.o.b. Rochester. Delaware and Maryland yellow sweet potatoes \$1.50-\$2 per bushel hamper in eastern cities. Tennessee Nancy Halls \$1.40-\$1.50 in Chicago. New York McIntosh apples \$1.50-\$1.62 $\frac{1}{2}$  and Rhode Island Greenings \$1.25-\$1.37 $\frac{1}{2}$  per bushel in New York City; Rhode Island Greenings \$1.35 f.o.b. Rochester.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets advanced 13 points to 9.06¢ per lb. On the corresponding day last season the price was 16.70¢. New January future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 12 points to 9.77¢ and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange advanced 17 points to 9.82¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 29¢; 91 score,  $28\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; 90 score,  $27\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats,  $17\frac{1}{2}$ -19¢; Single Daisies,  $17\frac{1}{4}$ - $17\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Young Americas,  $17\frac{3}{4}$ -18¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)



# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XXXIX, No. 76

Section 1

December 31, 1930.

## RAILWAY CONSOLIDATIONS

Agreement by eastern railway executives, called together by President Hoover, to frame a plan for consolidating the eastern railways into four great systems, with New England excepted, was announced yesterday afternoon by the President, according to the press to-day.

## SCIENCE ASSOCIATION MEETING

A Cleveland dispatch to the press of December 30 states that at Monday's meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science the first demonstration was given by Dr. George W. Crile of the Cleveland Clinic of artificial cells, created by him in the laboratory, which, he says, may prove to be the missing link between the lifeless and the living. The report says: "Assistants of Doctor Crile demonstrated the formation of what he calls the 'autosynthetic cells.' A lipid, a fat which has been extracted from the brain tissue of a freshly slaughtered animal, was added to a solution containing various salts. At once a reaction between the two was observed to take place, resulting in the formation of tiny fibers. Protein from brain tissue was then added, at which a structure like tiny cells of living creatures, only simpler and more regular in form, came into existence. Doctor Crile calls them 'autosynthetic cells,' because, he said, they put themselves together automatically as the various ingredients are mixed. Doctor Crile stated that the experiments leading to the creation of these cells was undertaken as part of research seeking light upon the subject of cancer..."

A Cleveland dispatch to-day states that at Tuesday's meeting the first photograph showing the curvature of the earth was exhibited before a joint session of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, holding its annual convention, and the Society of Sigma XI, by Dr. C.E.K. Mees, director of research of the Eastman Kodak Company. The picture was recently taken from an airplane by Captain A. W. Stevens of the United States Army, who pointed his camera in the direction of mountains 320 miles away, which were invisible to him, and made the camera "see" them by the application of super-sensitive photographic plates.

The Botanical Society of America heard Professor Charles B. Lipman of the University of California give further details of his discovery of micro-organisms in ancient rocks and in anthracite coal. Neither Doctor Lipman nor any one else has yet been able to offer an explanation of how these organisms have survived 100,000,000 years or more in a state of suspended animation.

Dr. Harlan T. Stetson, director of the Perkins Observatory of Ohio Wesleyan University, spoke before the astronomy section on sun spots, the moon and the planets and radio reception. "Analysis of years of observation," said Doctor Stetson, "shows to a remarkable degree the close correlation with the best radio reception in midsummer, following closely on the wake of the low ebb in solar activity which occurred the first of July, 1930. This remarkable increase in radio reception of last summer is quite contrary to the popular impression, but confirms in a remarkable way the announcements previously made on the intimate relation of solar activity to radio reception...."





## Section 2

Agriculture  
in the  
South

J. Sidney Cates writes at length under the title, "The South Makes New Plans," in The Country Gentleman for January. Asserting that ways are now open for a crop and livestock revival, Mr. Cates says in part: "It requires no rose-tinted glasses to envision a future of agricultural soundness for the South Atlantic. The South in its new stride is at last taking stock of its inhibiting factors and setting calmly about to overcome them; in short, has become research-minded, has determined to uncover a workable recipe for cheap volume output of quality products under her own soil and climatic conditions. And this is the road that leads to better things. Just recently there was introduced in Congress a bill making provision for exhaustive researches on every phase of cotton production, the studies to be headed by the Department of Agriculture and carried on in cooperation with the different Southern State institutions. Heretofore cotton-production research has been pitifully inadequate....The new and larger view of the cotton research problem contemplates a set-up of simplified methods for building fertility into the soil on one hand and of making available an adequate supply of high-bred cottonseed on the other. The annual Georgia five-acre-yield contest, bringing out scores of growers producing inch-staple cotton at well under ten cents and ranging down to seven cents a pound, marks achievements which leaders believe can be made everyday and commonplace....Looking to the control of the menace of erosion, the national Department of Agriculture, in cooperation with the different States, has established experimental farms throughout the South, where terrace construction and other phases of water holding and wash stopping are being studied...A systematic effort to develop a wide range of legumes of easy seed habits and cultural needs, capable of growing on raw poor land, though scarcely started, has already yielded astounding results. Two new giant forms of annual giant lespedezas, the Korean and the Kobe, are already working a veritable revolution in dozens of Upper South communities. And since the introduction of the few successful members of the acid-tolerant, soil-building group, such plant exploration has expanded until dozens of promising new things are now growing on trial plots at Washington....It has also become clearly evident that this new attack on the soil-building problem is the necessary precursor of an expanded livestock development....Despite the fact that southern cattle and hogs have shown a heavy decline in the past decade, there is clear evidence that the new fact-facing attitude with reference to the South is going to lay the foundation of a livestock industry which may in the end loom up into national significance....The Department of Agriculture has increased its parasite research work, and, what is even more important, the Washington office of the Extension Service is to be loaned the service of Doctor Nighbert, the man who has done such notable work in developing sanitary control measures at Moultrie, Georgia. Southern county agents are now getting comprehensive instructions for inaugurating the simple precautions necessary for achieving commercial control of these pests...."

Bush on  
Business

A prediction that business conditions all over the world would show a decided improvement by the end of the new year, with the United States leading the way to recovery, was made December 30 by Irving T. Bush, president of the Bush Terminal Company and an authority on



shipping and foreign trade, according to the press of December 31. In an analysis of present business conditions and prospects for the new year, made at the request of a group of business men in Boston, Mr. Bush said that "periods of depression seldom last longer than two or two and a half years" and that "fundamental business conditions are about at bedrock."

Marketing  
Progress

"All our so-called revolutionary marketing methods had their beginning long before 1920. Speed and tempo have characterized the present decade rather than revolutionary changes, and have been due to three causes: 1. Growing intensity of competition between all groups and among members of each group making up our economic structure. 2. Expansion of large scale buying by chain systems, powerful department store units, buying syndicates and voluntary chains. 3. Power in the hands of the consumer to make his wants speedily known and respected. If there is any real tendency in distribution it is toward more direct distribution, both through elimination of middlemen and establishment of closer cooperation with a select group of middlemen. This latter movement is greatest in the drug, grocery and hardware fields. In other trades the tendency toward direct selling has taken the manufacturer-consumer form." (Professor H. R. Tosdal, American Management Association Meeting, Pittsburgh.)

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Section 3

Department of  
Agriculture

An editorial in Journal of Home Economics for January says: "Food control legislation is a matter of concern to home economists, not only to those teaching or practicing the selection of food, but also to those who are interested in the general question of standards and specifications for consumer purchasing. The so-called Canners' Bill approved by President Hoover on July 8, 1930, is of special significance in this connection. For the following description of its provisions and workings, we are mainly indebted to the Food and Drug Administration in the United States Department of Agriculture....It is, perhaps, only a question of time when the general terms of the act will be made more specific by definite legal enactments which will enable the Food and Drug Administration to effect more rigid control in that twilight zone of adulterated and misbranded foods where there is at present a very considerable amount of consumer deception....Consumers are proverbially inarticulate, but it may be that home economics can aid in this important and difficult task of obtaining an expression of consumer opinion as to the nature and extent of the defects in quality which should compel substandard designation on these canned foods. Many home economists themselves should be able to draw up such statements, and they are often in a position to stimulate organizations of consumers to do so. Though their suggestions can perhaps be only general in nature, they would be of real service to the Food and Drug Administration...."





Section 4  
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm  
Products

Dec. 30.—Livestock prices: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers; steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$9 to \$14.25; cows, good and choice \$5.25 to \$7.50; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$8 to \$12; vealers, good and choice \$10 to \$12.50 feeder and stocker cattle; steers, good and choice \$7 to \$9; hogs, heavy weight (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$7.10 to \$7.60; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$8.10 to \$8.30; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$7.65 to \$8.35 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$7 to \$8.35; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$5.50 to \$7.50.

Grain prices: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis  $73\frac{1}{2}$  to  $76\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.2 red winter Chicago  $79\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; St. Louis 81 to  $81\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City 72 to 73¢; No.2 hard winter Kansas City 69 to  $69\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.3 mixed corn Chicago 58¢; Minneapolis 53¢ to 55¢; Kansas City  $53\frac{1}{2}$  to  $55\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.3 yellow corn Chicago 61 to 63¢; Minneapolis 56 to 58¢; St. Louis 62 to 63¢; Kansas City 56 to  $57\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.3 white oats Chicago  $30\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Minneapolis 26  $\frac{3}{8}$  to 27  $\frac{3}{8}$ ¢; St. Louis  $32\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City  $31\frac{3}{4}$ ¢.

Maine sacked Green Mountain potatoes brought \$1.80-\$2.10 per 100 pounds in eastern cities; \$1.40-\$1.45 f.o.b. Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites \$1.55-\$1.70 carlot sales in Chicago; mostly \$1.30-\$1.35 f.o.b. Waupaca. New York Danish type cabbage \$20-\$22 bulk per ton in terminal markets; \$14-\$15 f.o.b. Rochester. Florida Pointed type \$1.50-\$2 per  $1\frac{1}{2}$  bushel hamper in the East. New York and midwestern sacked yellow varieties of onions ranged \$1-\$1.55 per 100 pounds in consuming centers; 90¢ f.o.b. Rochester. Delaware and Maryland yellow sweet potatoes brought \$1.50-\$2 per bushel hamper in eastern cities. Tennessee Nancy Halls \$1.40-\$1.50 in Chicago. New York McIntosh mostly \$1.50; Rhode Island and Northwestern Greenings \$1-\$1.25 per bushel basket in New York City; Baldwins \$1.50 f.o.b. Rochester and Rhode Island Greenings \$1.30 f.o.b.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets declined 1 point to 9.05¢ per lb. On the same day one year ago the price stood at 16.67¢. New January future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange were unchanged at 9.77¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 5 points to 9.77¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 29¢; 91 score,  $28\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; 90 score,  $27\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats,  $17\frac{1}{2}$ ¢-19¢; Single Daisies,  $17\frac{1}{2}$ ¢- $17\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Young Americas,  $17\frac{3}{4}$ ¢-18¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

